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75¢

Supplies running low on Rota

By FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA
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REPORTER

Typhoon Dolphin is now more than 600 miles northwest of the CNMI but is still causing problems for Rota. Because of high waves and strong winds, which could be associated with the typhoon's tail end, shipment to the municipality is a challenge.



Mother, family believe Jack was murdered

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The mother and the family of Traina Suda Jack believe that the 18-year-old Chuuk native, whose remains were found in the jungle area near Obyan Beach, was murdered and dumped in the area.

Roxanne Suda Tammy, 20, a security guard, also disclosed to *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that she identified a rubber wristband with the word "music" in it, a basketball

See MURDERED on Page 4

In this photo released by the Department of Public Safety shows Traina Suda Jack is shown wearing a wristband with the word "MUSIC" in it. Police recovered the wristband along with a short pants and bra in the jungle area near Obyan Beach, where the remains of Jack were found last week.

» Sister identifies recovered wristband, clothes as Jack's

INSIDE



NATION

A shootout among rival motorcycle gangs leaves nine dead and 18 injured.

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WORLD

About 500 people are estimated to have been killed as Ramadi fell to the Islamic State.

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LIFE & STYLE

Taylor Swift dominates the Billboard Music Awards with eight wins, including top artist.

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Inos eyes state of emergency for Rota

By JOEL PINAROC
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REPORTER

Gov. Eloy S. Inos is expected to declare a state of emergency for public assistance for Rota in the wake of Typhoon Dolphin.

Press secretary Ivan Blanco said the state of emergency will be "localized," since the assessment of damage on Rota is still being finalized.

Blanco explained that under the localized state of emergency, the Federal Emergency

Management Agency may reimburse the Commonwealth for the costs of repairs for damaged public infrastructure in the after-

math of the typhoon.

"The threshold for public infrastructure is \$1 million, so I

See INOS on Page 4

Power back up for most of CNMI

By DENNIS B. CHAN
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REPORTER

Feeder 1 remained down on Rota as of yesterday afternoon but power and water restoration appears largely successful in the CNMI after Typhoon Dolphin hit over the weekend.

CUC public information officer Brad Ruzsala told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday afternoon that a "good amount of Rota" now has power.

CUC Power Division manager Gary Camacho also said the restoration process was going

See POWER on Page 4

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Local

Inos renews 'state of emergency' for CUC

By DENNIS B. CHAN
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REPORTER

Gov. Eloy S. Inos extended again the declaration of a state of emergency for the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.

The declaration allows the governor to reprogram funds, suspend procurement laws or rules to address the emergency, and for CUC to retain staff that are not citizens or permanent residents of the United States, among others.

CUC has been under a state of emergency for about 10 years now.

Inos signed the declaration on Saturday. It cites the existing financial and technical worker crisis of the utility and the importance of CUC as the sole electric supplier of the CNMI's schools and hospital, among others.

"CUC is owed over \$20 million by the Public School System and the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. and is owed over millions more by other users," Inos said.

Inos also cited CUC's "days" worth of purchased diesel fuel to power its system" because of the lack of funds to buy oil from its sole, cash-only supplier. CUC has no credit to do this.

According to the most recent information provided by CUC's chief financial officer Matthew Yaquinto, the government owes CUC \$33.71 million as of May 6, 2015.

Since the start of the fiscal year, the Commonwealth Health Center has been billed \$3.8 million. CUC has collected \$569,165. Total debt sits at \$16,273,384.

So far this year, PSS has been billed \$1.66 million. CUC has collected \$1.48 million. PSS' debt sits at \$8.3 million.

According to a CUC report on reserve funds for operations, CUC has \$1.7 million set aside for fuel purchases.

Total cash reserves after obligations and what has been spent sits at \$12.51 million as of May 6, 2015.

Yaquinto noted in a recent presentation to the board that if cash reserves "on hand" gets

down to \$500,000, CUC would have to start contingency plan inclusive of forced discon-

nection of all non-paying accounts, targeted load shedding, the deferral of all stipulated order ac-

tivities, and the move to "rolling blackout" schedule.

According to CUC, they have division and administration expenses totaling \$38.13 million as of the second quarter of this fiscal year.

CDA is finalizing report on 'net effect' of QC program

By DENNIS B. CHAN
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REPORTER

The Commonwealth Development Authority is finalizing a historical evaluation of the CNMI's qualifying certificate program since it was initiated in 2001.

This report will compare the amount of tax relief provided to QC holders versus the amount of capital and benefits they have pumped into the CNMI.

CDA QC analyst Carline

Sablan disclosed that this report has been in the works and should be finalized this week.

According to her, the report will compare the "direct and indirect" benefits of the QC program to what the CNMI has given up in the form of taxes.

When asked for a ballpark estimate of these figures, CDA could not disclose this as the report is still being prepared.

Sablan said that since these are tax figures, CDA needs to be careful not single out a beneficiary.

She explained that when the report is released people would not be able to pinpoint how much a QC holder is paying out in taxes.

"That's why we are not ready to release it yet," Sablan said.

CDA executive director Manuel Sablan echoed this, saying that they would prefer not to "prematurely disclose" these

figures.

But in describing the report, the director said, "It's going to be very interesting." He did not elaborate.

The CDA chief said the report is "basically a historical evaluation of how much in tax relief has been provided" by the QC program versus "how much economic generation came out of that tax relief."

"Essentially, the QC is applying tax relief in anticipation of economic growth, investment activity. Without this QC, the question can be asked, 'Can this investor deploy that much volumes of capital investment?' It'd be nice to have investment without these incentives but look at Rota and Tinian, it is very hard to have investment there," he said, noting the difficulties of interisland transportation and higher costs of products as road blocks to investment.

CUC at work on draft financial statement for govt single audit

By DENNIS B. CHAN
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REPORTER

With only a few weeks before a government-wide deadline, the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. is busy at work on financial data for the government's single audit.

David Burger of Burger Comer Magliari updated the CUC board last week on a "hard" June 3 deadline for CNMI audit data to be submitted to a clearinghouse.

After a meeting with the Office of the Public Auditor, Burger said they aim to feed a draft financial statement by May 29 to Deloitte, the firm performing the CNMI audit, so the firm can incorporate it in their government-wide financial statement.

Burger submitted a report to the board on "what's pending or in progress" on CUC's financial report. He said testing of fuel transactions are 90 percent

done, but testing for compliance for single audit purposes for federal programs are only about 70 percent done.

To complete this effort, Burger asked for, among others, the board's minutes for 2014, CUC's original and amended budget for 2014, its schedule of capital contributions if there were any, its notes receivables schedule, its schedule on analysis of production fuel under or over recovery, and the schedule for analysis of fuel revenues and fuel costs.

He also asked for CUC's Bank of Guam general reconciliation.

"We are all under the gun right now," he said. "We don't want any excuse that we can't include you guys in the CNMI government."

CUC board chair Adelina Roberto urged management to get this information to Burger.

CNMI declares Memorial Week

Gov. Eloy S. Inos led yesterday the proclamation signing that designated the week of May 18 to May 25 as "Memorial Week" in recognition of those who defended the nation's security and democracy and paid the ultimate price.

The proclamation ceremony was held on Capital Hill yesterday, attended by members of the military and veterans and their families.

"Memorial Week" will culminate in "Memorial Day" on May 25 with a ceremony at the CNMI Veteran's Cemetery.

The proclamation letter states: "We remember the selfless service of our fallen heroes, we pray for God's grace upon

them. We also pray for all of our military personnel and veterans, their families, and all those who have lost loved ones in the defense of our freedom and safety."

"We commend their deeds, we also bear a heavy burden of responsibility to ensure that their sacrifices will not have been in vain. This means that as we uphold the ideals for which many have given their last full measure of devotion, the United States must never waver in its determination to defend itself,

to be faithful in protecting liberty at home and abroad, and to pursue peace in the world." (Joel D. Pinaroc)



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Man who stole HSEM's TVs gets 9-month sentence

A man accused of stealing four federally funded 42-inch LG flat screen TVs from the Emergency Operation Center on Capital Hill has pleaded guilty and was slapped with a nine-month prison term.

Joseph Olaitman Borja Jr., 34, pleaded guilty to the theft charge last week as part of a plea deal.

Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman sentenced Borja to three years imprisonment, all suspended except for nine months, with credit for time served. He has been in jail since Dec. 3, 2014, and is expected to be released on Sept. 3, 2015.

After completing the prison

term, Borja will be placed on supervised probation for five years. He was ordered to pay \$4,200 in restitution to the CNMI Homeland Security, \$100 fine, \$100 court assessment fee, plus probation fee.

Borja was required to perform 200 hours of community service, write a letter of apology

to the CNMI Homeland Security, and complete any counseling recommended by the Community Guidance Center.

Assistant attorney general Heather Barcenas appeared for the government. Attorney Joseph Horey served as court-appointed counsel for Borja.

Borja stole four 42-inch

LG flat screen TVs from the CNMI Homeland Security office on June 7, 2014.

Police detective Catherine B. Pangelinan stated in her report that a police officer responded to the Homeland Security office on July 15, 2014, after CNMI Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management

special assistant Marvin K. Seaman reported that four TVs worth a total of \$5,600 had been stolen from the Emergency Operation Center.

A surveillance camera led to the arrest of Borja and his girlfriend, Martina Castro, who was then a radio dispatcher at Homeland Security. It is not clear yet whether the case against Castro is pending. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*

Pena House burglar gets 2-year prison term

A man who was caught on surveillance camera burglarizing and stealing money and an iPad from the Pena House Boutique in Chalan Kanoa has pleaded guilty and was slapped with a two-year prison term.

Mark Anthony Benavente, 34, pleaded guilty to burglary last week as part of a plea deal.

Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman sen-

tenced Benavente to five years imprisonment, all suspended except for two years, with credit for two months of time served.

He was remanded to the Department of Corrections and is expected to be released on March 13, 2017.

After serving his sentence, Benavente will be placed on probation for five years. He was ordered to pay restitution of

\$580.66 and \$600 to Pena House Boutique and Peter Sablan, respectively. Sablan is the husband of Pena House's owner.

Benavente was also required to pay a \$100 fine, \$100 court assessment fee, plus probation fee, perform 200 hours of community service, complete a drug and alcohol counseling and other

recommended counseling by the Community Guidance Center, and write a letter of apology to Pena House.

As part of the plea deal, the remaining theft charge was dropped.

Assistant attorney general Heather Barcenas appeared for the government. Assistant public defender Matthew Meyer served as counsel for

Benavente.

Benavente burglarized Pena House Boutique on March 2, 2015, breaking into the back door by damaging the deadbolt and doorknob. Once inside, he forcibly opened the cash register and stole \$100 and an iPad owned by Sablan.

Police said that several persons, including Benavente's family members and

a former girlfriend, identified the person in the surveillance footage as the defendant. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*



Xerox open house tech show today

By FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA
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REPORTER

Xerox Corp. will be hosting an open house tech show at its office in Garapan today.

According to Services and Solutions executive Nola K. Hix, the company will be showing the latest technologies Xerox has to offer.

This includes their Digital Alternatives Tool, which is a cloud-based app that allows users to share documents across all computers and mobile devices. It can also easily read documents like on a tablet, take digital notes on pages, fill out any form, and digitally sign any document.

They will also be featuring technology that enables printing right from a mobile smart phone or tablet PC to Xerox units.

Hix will be hosting the event, which will also be attended by Pam Quinata, Xerox's Guam and Saipan general manager; and Michael Person, their network printer specialist for Hawaii, Guam and Saipan.

Aside from having their pictures from using a photo-booth, guests will also have a chance to win giveaways such as Joeten shopping sprees, movie passes, and free gas from Shell as well as free VIP tickets to the next concert on Saipan scheduled for Aug. 8.

A morning and an afternoon session will be held at 9am and 1pm respectively at their ground floor office in the Alter City Group Building.

Last year, Xerox held an open house as part of their 38th anniversary of doing business on the islands.

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IT&E would like to remind its RESIDENTIAL, GOVERNMENT & BUSINESS customers that current billing of accounts are due on or before **Wednesday, May 20**. Payments not received by close of business on **May 20** will result in temporary suspension of all telephone services after 6:00PM on that day.

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Woman allegedly tries to stab sister, others

A woman allegedly went berserk by trying to stab her sister and other family members with a knife in Kagman on Saturday night.

Julita Matagolai Namauleg, 48, who was arrested for assault with a dangerous weapon, crim-

inal mischief, and disturbing the peace, also allegedly damaged their car.

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho maintained yesterday Namauleg's \$5,500 cash bail and set the preliminary hearing for May

26 at 1:30pm.

Police detective Daniel Maiuyaf stated in his report that two police officers responded to a residence in Kagman III on Saturday night after a caller informed police about a woman chasing them with a knife and

breaking things in their house.

The officers learned that Namauleg had gotten drunk and started acting up. When a family member confronted her, Namauleg got mad, grabbed a knife, and tried to stab her sister and other household members, who

all ran outside the house.

Namauleg then allegedly broke things in the house and damaged the front windshield of her sister's car with the knife.

The suspect also scratched the car's body with the knife and broke the sliding door curtain holder inside the house. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*

'Steppin' It Up' business seminar to be held today

By FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA
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REPORTER

Pointers on how to advance within a company is the main focus of today's Saipan Chamber of Commerce workshop.

According to the Chamber, the business seminar would benefit those interested in greater career development and in developing

the skills to improve performance and growth within an organization.

Presenters for today's event are Vicky Benavente, assistant manager of Pacific Islands Club, and Jill Arenovski, executive director of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce.

Titled "Steppin' it up! Taking on greater responsibility and problem solving," strat-

egies to gain recognition for efforts and how to enhance skill sets will also be discussed so that professionals will be ready to move up the corporate ladder in their business or company.

Attendees can also find out if they have what it takes to step up to the plate to lead, work in teams, and juggle new assignments with their current

responsibilities.

The workshop is recommended for front line employees, administrators, retail staff, and sales people.

The workshop will be held in the Chamber conference room in Marianas Business Plaza Suite 315. Registration fee for chamber members is \$25 while a \$35 fee is required for non-Chamber members.

Saipan yesterday. CUC said crews focused on remaining individual outages.

Compared to work done during and after Typhoon Bavi, Camacho said this time power crews worked and rested together, instead of having rotating shifts.

"And this time, this has seemed to pay off a little better," he said.

There were also brief outages in Kagman yesterday, Camacho and Ruzsala said, but this was due to "vegetation issues" with tree branches interfering with power lines and was resolved.

On Saipan, the CUC Call Center received 3,992 calls from customers who experienced power fluctuations, lost power, or reported issues with lines, transformers or meters. Representatives also fielded calls about power poles that

were tilted, downed or burning during the storm.

Yesterday afternoon, CUC performed an emergency power interruption to replace a power pole along Chalan Pale Arnold in Tanapag that was severely damaged during the storm. The pole posed a safety risk and required Feeder 7, which provides power from the power plant to the northern villages, to be taken offline.

Water across Saipan has also been restored, although CUC addressed isolated service interruptions in Koblerville yesterday.

On Tinian, all power and water services have been restored. CUC addressed individual issues from customers inconvenienced by the storm.

As of press time, Feeder 1 on Rota remained down.

Some customers normally

served by Feeder 1 were receiving power from Feeder 3, which is also 95-percent energized, according to CUC.

"Linemen hope to bring a portion of Feeder 1 online and return full service to customers along Feeder 3 by the end of the night," CUC said.

Work on Feeder 2 is nearly complete as Sinapalo I, II, and III are 100-percent online. Work continues to restore service to customers living in the Chenchon area.

The water system on Rota fared better than its power component, as CUC customers are online. CUC Water personnel will declare 100-percent restoration to the system following an assessment of the water transmission line from the Water Caves to the Ka'an and Ginalangan reservoirs once conditions permit.

listen to people because in her daughter's case, they kept telling her that she was just hiding somewhere.

"I knew that my daughter was somewhere...suffering," she said, adding that she and the family went around the island to look for her.

Suda said police did not pay attention to her daughter's disappearance.

The mother filed an official missing person's complaint with the Department of Public Safety on Oct. 26, 2014. Jack was last seen on Oct. 22, 2014.

Suda and her family will see Jack's remains at the Commonwealth Health Center's morgue today, Tuesday. Burial will be at the Tanapag Cemetery on Thursday at 10am.

Roxanne Tammy said they believe that someone killed her sister because she was not mad when she left their house that day and that Obyan is too far.

Tammy said that Jack left their house in Chinatown on Oct. 22, 2014, to go to a male friend named June.

dropped Jack at their aunt's house in San Antonio.

Jack was drunk when she left the San Antonio house at midnight on foot. She was supposed to meet a friend in Koblerville, according to Tammy.

That was the last time Jack was seen.

Tammy said Jack's cellphone was in a shop and at that time she was using their mother's cellphone.

She said Jack left their mother's cellphone in the San Antonio house.

Tammy said she was shocked when police officers went to their house last Wednesday and informed the family that the remains found were that of her sister.

Tammy said although she has yet to see the bones, she is convinced the remains were that of her sister when the officers showed her and their father the wristband that she was always wearing.

She said the officers also showed them Jack's basketball-style short pants and bra.

Tammy said their father would not say it but they knew

Jack was his favorite among his children.

"My sister does not like to be bothered, but she's fun to be with. She likes everybody to laugh," Tammy said.

A cattle manager saw the remains in the jungle area near Obyan Beach, about 15 feet from the shoulder of the road located across Torres farm last May 11.

Last Thursday, DPS Commissioner James C. Deleon Guerrero confirmed that the remains were that of Jack.

Deleon Guerrero said that, using a photograph that shows dental features, Guam chief medical examiner Dr. Aurelio Espinola positively identified the remains as that of Jack.

Espinola's autopsy did not reveal any type of identifiable trauma such as fracture, stab, or gunshot.

Espinola, however, stated that further microscopic analysis on bone fragments from the skull is needed to determine the cause of death.

DPS has yet to release information whether microscopic analysis has already been done.

ROTATION

From Page 1

According to him, large ships and barges bringing supplies to the island are having a problem docking at their port as the weather is still unfavorable and high waves are still present. This has been a problem even when Typhoon Dolphin was just approaching the islands.

He said the last shipment was three months ago. He worries that if the shipment will not come anytime soon, commodities such as rice, butane, and canned goods will be depleted.

"The stores are running low in supply. The merchants have been flying in their items but it's expensive for the people," Atalig said.

Lisa Camacho of Lucky Store on Rota confirmed that they are indeed experiencing lack of supplies.

"We don't have too much anymore. We are out of butane. Some of our canned goods are also depleted," she said.

Another store, 3 Kings Market in Sinapalo I, also said that aside from basic commodities, they are already running low on canned foods, sodas, juices, and milk.

Recovery and assessment

According to the mayor, dam-

ter the storm grazed the island.

In his initial statement, Rota Mayor Efrain Atalig said despite the damage they have suffered, he is thankful that there were no casualties or injuries.

Atalig said that 90 percent of the power on island has been restored after experiencing a blackout since Saturday. Roads within the two villages have been cleared, including the main highway connecting the two and the hospital. The airport and seaport have also been cleared of debris.

Lt. Gov. Ralph DLG Torres flew to Rota Sunday to personally assess the damage the island suffered. Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) also made the rounds of Rota with Torres.

Atalig reported that teams from the American Red Cross and FEMA Preliminary Disaster Assessment are already on island.

No casualties or injuries have been reported.

At 8am Saturday, an all-clear condition was declared by the government as Typhoon Dolphin moved away from the islands.

A total of 263 individuals stayed in the 10 shelters that were opened since Friday night.

age assessment by the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the American Red Cross is still ongoing.

Aside from damage to homes and infrastructure, they are also taking into consideration the damage sustained by farmers and their crops.

"I hope to have [the report] perhaps in two weeks. This thing takes time," he said.

As of now, power restoration on the island sits at 90 percent. Atalig hopes power will be 100 percent up and running in the next few days.

They also continue to clean the municipality's inner roads of debris. All the major roads have already been cleared.

The shelter at Rota's Aging Office is still open and continues to accept clients.

According to the center's acting program coordinator Valerie Apatang, nine clients stayed last night. Red Cross teams continue to assess the damage in the clients' homes.

Lt. Gov. Ralph DLG Torres returned to Saipan last night after seeing for himself the damage brought about by Typhoon Dolphin on Rota.

In a posting on social media, Torres said he and Gov. Eloy S. Inos wish the residents of Rota a speedy recovery as they pick up the pieces after the typhoon and get life back to normal.

MURDERED

From Page 1

short pants, and bra that police officers recovered and showed them last week as those that belonged to her younger sister, Jack.

Rocky Jack Suda, 40, a housekeeping staff at Saipan World Resort, told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that she and the family believe that her daughter was killed.

Suda, however, stated that they have no idea who killed her daughter because she does not have an enemy.

"She's a quiet person. She likes to go out with friends. She's very friendly," said the mother, who burst into tears during the interview.

Suda said her other daughter called her at work last Wednesday that police officers went to their house in Chinatown and informed them that the remains found in Obyan were those of Jack.

"I was shocked. Heartbroken," she said.

Suda said the police should

Govt set to select consultant for draft EIS review

By JOEL PINAROC
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REPORTER

The administration of Gov. Eloy S. Inos is set to select a consultant who will review the draft environmental impact statement on proposed military "live-fire" exercises on Tinian and Pagan.

Six consultants have submitted their bids for the project to the CNMI Office of Procurement and Supply, which is supposed to submit the sealed bids to the Office of the Governor on Monday, press secretary Ivan Blanco said.

According to Blanco, three of the six bidders are from off-island while three are local.

The six bidders beat the May 6 deadline.

Once the bids are opened, the government will start a review of the proposals this week.

Blanco said the government hopes to select the winning bid by next week, as Inos wants to expedite the process of selecting the consultant.

"Personally for me, the contract should be out by next week. At least we have a company that the government can award the proposal to," Blanco said.

Once the winning bid is selected, government representatives will sit down and work out a schedule of payments and the expected deliverables. A contract will then be drawn for the two entities to sign.

In April, the government announced it will issue request for proposals for a third-party contractor or consultant for the draft EIS review.

The government has also released the scope of work for the potential consultant who will have advisory functions.

The government said it is seeking "consultant services to ensure that the Office of Governor thoroughly understands the DEIS, its potential positive and negative impacts, and all substantive options, including legal remedies if agreements and other mitigation measures with the military are unable to be reached."

One of the primary goals of the advisory consultant is to "ensure that the Office of the Governor is well versed on the relevance of the DEIS and has a comprehensive understanding and appreciation of how the Department of Defense proposed action impacts the CNMI, including the direct and indirect impacts, especially those that are less obvious and potentially harmful over the long-term operation of live-firing (high explosives) training ranges."

The advisory consultant is also expected to ensure and enable the Office of the Governor "to make informed decisions on behalf of the CNMI."

The consultant is expected to provide a "reasonable analysis" of the draft EIS and provide counsel and recommendations.

blan (Ind-MP) earlier said the Department of the Interior has awarded a technical assistance grant of \$250,000 to the Office

of the Governor to hire environmental experts to review the draft EIS.

Sablan said the funds are ap-

propriated by Congress and allows the department to respond to "critical needs in the insular areas for which local funds are

not available."

In this case there is a critical need for expertise to evaluate plans to develop live-fire ranges

and training areas on Tinian and Pagan as part of the U.S. military's shift of forces in the Asia-Pacific region, he said.

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10-day dog spay/neuter program starts today

By JAYSON CAMACHO
jayson.camacho@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang, Humane Society International, and Animal Balance are urging dog owners to avail of the spay/neuter program that starts today.

The 10-day program will run until May 23 at the Saipan Animal Shelter in Lower Base. The services will then switch to Kagman from May 25 to 29.

"I urge everyone to take advantage of this program because it is an opportunity for them to take their dogs in for treatment," Apatang said.

His office had been preparing for months and working with other organizations to bring the program to the island.

HSI is also urging residents to make a \$25 donation for the sterilization of their dogs to off-

set surgical supply costs. However, the program is free and no dogs will be turned away.

Spaying and neutering is a proven humane and effective method of reducing both owned and free-roaming dog populations. Dogs who are sterilized live longer, healthier lives but still remain protective of their owner's property.

HSI's goal is for at least 70 percent of Saipan and Rota's dog populations to be sterilized to see significant overall population declines.

Apatang and his office had been working to get this program going, along with their stray dog removal campaign that will continue on a quarterly basis.

In an earlier interview, Apatang said he will continue to bring in more spay/neuter programs and eventually try to get

a veterinarian for the office.

Right now, Saipan has only one veterinarian, a private clinic.

By JAYSON CAMACHO
jayson.camacho@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A project of the late mayor Donald Flores to create a nature trail in Lao Lao Bay is getting a much needed boost, with Mayor David M. Apatang himself leading the charge to make the project a reality.

The project, called "Sabanan Lao Lao Nature Trail," will be located at the Lao Lao Bay area, where the old Sugar King railroad tracks once were. The area is near the Kagman Juvenile Detention center leading toward San Vicente.

However, the trail will not follow the full railroad track

"The stray dog removal campaign will continue every quarter. We have been doing

the removals but sometimes we have to move away from the campaign and address the calls of other residents for help," Apatang said.

For more information on the

program, contact the Mayor's Office at 234-6208 or email saipanmayoroffice@gmail.com. For more information on HSI Street Dog welfare programs, visit hsi.org/streetdogs.

is a low-cost project and that if there were any private lands along the trail, they intend to talk with the landowners and hopefully come to an agreement.

He noted that further into the rocky area of the trail, they are proposing to make a trail leading to an old Japanese concrete platform that overlooks the whole Lao Lao Bay.

"Not only will people enjoy nature's tranquility but see the beautiful view along the trail. So right now we still need guidance from BECQ for this part of the project and find a way to minimize foot traffic on the platform area, because they have a project they are doing in this area," he said.

Program unites community members within a village in protecting their homes, families, and neighbors by being the "eyes" of the village and looking out for potential criminal activities such as burglaries.

Burglary incidents have continued to plague the islands' villages and there is a perception that the Neighborhood Watch Task Force has not been getting the cooperation of many residents.

Tudela believes this can be countered by actually bringing the campaign to the grassroots level. (Jayson Camacho)

around the island, but to an area of Lao Lao Bay as a means to promote ecotourism in that part of the island.

Henry Hofsneider, special assistant for the Saipan Mayor's Office, said that it was Flores' vision to open up a foot trail for residents to actually see the sugar cane railroad tracks.

Hofsneider said this will be a great opportunity for schools, residents, and visitors to enjoy nature. Neither bikes nor cars will be allowed in the area.

"The initial plan is to put a signage that will show the history of the railroad tracks, including signage for the trees and birds

that will be seen during the walk. People can enjoy nature," he said.

He said the Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality has hired a firm to conduct a survey based on the needed assessment required by the agency. BECQ paid for the survey.

"The survey is already done along with the footprint of the nature trail. Now we will get guidance from all the permitting regulatory agencies. This will be beneficial for visitors and locals alike.

The area has a bamboo grove while strolling on the railroad area and people can enjoy the sight of it as well," he said.

Hofsneider assured that this

Municipal council to revive Neighborhood Watch

The Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council intends to revive its Neighborhood Watch Program, according to chair Antonia Tudela.

"This needs to be pushed further in and we are planning to do outreach by going into the villages and doing our outreach there. We need to protect ourselves, it is already getting worse," she said.

Tudela said that Glenn Dikito, chairman of the Neighborhood Watch Program, and the council would be meeting soon

to plan their next steps.

Dikito became chairman last August after former Municipal Council chair Ramon B. Camacho appointed him and initiated the program by presenting at various PTA meetings in public schools across the island.

"This time we need to take it seriously. It takes an entire village, the Legislature, and everybody else to be involved for the program to be successful," Tudela said.

The Neighborhood Watch



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

Tel. (670) 234-6866/234-9447/234-7689/234-7670 - Fax. (670) 234-9021
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp



NOTICE TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC

Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program

(May 13, 2015)

Pursuant to Section 5 of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation's (NMHC) revised *Section 8 Administrative Plan for Rental Assistance Programs – Housing Choice Voucher Program*, NMHC wants to respectfully inform the general public of the following:

1. NMHC will be updating the current Applicant Waiting List for its Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program beginning on **June 01, 2015**, by removing applicants:
 - a. Who requests that his/her name be removed;
 - b. Who fail to respond to a written request for information updating their application;
 - c. Who fail to respond to a written request declaring his/her continued interest; or
 - d. Who no longer meets the program's eligibility criteria.

NOTE: The updating of the Applicant Waiting List will only apply to applicants that submitted a pre-application in March 2014.

Written notices will be mailed out to every applicant listed on the program's waiting list. Upon receipt of a written notice, applicants are requested and required to contact NMHC at the following telephone numbers or email addresses listed below. Thank you and please direct all questions regarding this public notice to the following individuals:

1. **Saipan Office – Telephone Numbers: 234-6866 or 234-9447**
 - David Chargualaf, PHD Manager – email: phdmanager@nmhc.gov.net
 - Nanette Palacios, Housing Specialist - email: housingdiv@nmhc.gov.mp
 - Sisi Alvarez, Housing Specialist - email: housingdiv@nmhc.gov.mp
2. **Tinian Field Office – Telephone Number: 433-9213**
 - Frances Diaz, Tinian Field Office Representative – email: tiq@nmhc.gov.mp
3. **Rota Field Office – Telephone Number: 532-9410**
 - Arvin Ogo, Rota Field Office Representative – email: rop@nmhc.gov.mp

CTSI Logistics is inviting qualified U.S. workers to apply for the following positions:

Logistics Manager

Graduate of 4-year degree course and with at least 6 years management experience in the logistics business with emphasis on airfreight, ocean freight forwarding, warehousing and fuel hauling operations. Knowledge of Federal Regulations in Transportation, Environmental and Occupational Safety Hazards is required. Must have obtained certifications/training in Hazmat, Occupational Safety and Hazardous Waste Operation, Emergency Response, IICL (Container and Chassis), Petroleum Standard Operating Procedure and Vehicle Safety Guidelines.

Accounting Manager

Graduate of 4-year degree course in accounting with at least 5 years experience in financial management: directing the preparation of financial reports; implementing cash management; and directing investment activities for a logistics supply chain business operations. Must have excellent written communication and analysis skills for financial data reporting. Proficient in the use of SAP R3 Financial and Controlling (FICO) software, freight forwarding, shipping and logistics software are a must. Expertise with MS Excel, Word and Power Point is required. Must be able to work under time pressure and can work flexible hours.

Sales & Marketing Manager

Must be a college graduate with a Bachelor's degree in Sales or Marketing or any Business course and at least 3 years of managerial work experience are required as well as an extensive knowledge and experience in supply chain and freight brokerage. Must have his/her own reliable transportation. Can work flexible hours. Must be able to meet monthly sales targets and have extensive contacts in various industries. Proficiency in freight forwarding, shipping and household goods operations are a must. Must be familiar with freight forwarding software.

Accountant

Must be a college graduate with a Bachelor's Degree in Finance and Accounting with at least 3 years work experience in financial management for a logistics/supply chain business or agency operations. Proficient in the use of SAP R3 FICO system, freight forwarding, shipping and logistics systems. Must have expertise with MS Excel, Word and Power Point. Must be able to work under time pressure and can work flexible hours.

Storage and Distribution Supervisor

Associate's Degree with at least 3 years of distribution and warehousing supervisory experience. Knowledge of household goods handling and airfreight and oceanfreight operations is required. Proficiency in Warehouse management system software is required. Knowledge of Federal Regulations in Transportation is required. Must have obtained certifications/training in Hazmat, Occupational Safety and Hazardous Waste Operation, IICL (Container and Chassis) and Vehicle Safety Guidelines.

Shipping Supervisor

Associate's Degree and at least 3 years of shipping, receiving and warehousing supervisory experience is required. Proficiency in shipping operations, shipping documentation & cargo management system software is required. Knowledge of Federal Regulations in Transportation, 49 CFR & IMDG Code is required. Must have obtained certifications/training in Hazmat, Occupational Safety and Hazardous Waste Operation, IICL (Container and Chassis) and Vehicle Safety Guidelines. Knowledge of bill of lading, scheduling and planning inbound and outbound shipments is a must.

Transportation Supervisor

Associate's Degree and at least 3 years of logistics and trucking operations supervisory experience is required. Must be knowledgeable in transportation and safety regulations and proficient in various logistic software. Knowledge of Federal Regulations in Transportation is required. Must have obtained certifications/training in Hazmat, Occupational Safety and Hazardous Waste Operation, Emergency Response, ICL (Container and Chassis), Petroleum Standard Operating Procedure and Vehicle Safety Guidelines.

Freight Forwarding Supervisor

Associate's Degree with at least 3 years experience in freight forwarding operations and 1-year experience in transportation security and communication related activities. Knowledge of TSA security regulations and proficiency in TSA Known Shipper Management System are a must. Knowledge of Federal Regulations in Transportation is required. Must have obtained certifications/training in Hazmat, Occupational Safety and Hazardous Waste Operation and IATA related trainings. Proficiency in airfreight documentation, freight forwarding software, FEDEX systems and operations are a must. Must be familiar with airline operations and regulations.

Sales Officer

Associate's Degree in Sales or Marketing and at least 3 years work related experience are required as well as an extensive knowledge and experience in supply chain and freight brokerage. Must have his/her own reliable transportation. Can work flexible hours. Must be able to meet monthly sales targets and have extensive contacts in various industries. Proficiency in freight forwarding, shipping and household goods operations are a must. Must be familiar with freight forwarding software.

Cargo and Freight Agent (6)

Associate's Degree with a minimum of 2 years experience in a logistics, freight brokerage or warehouse services business. Must know how to operate a forklift with certification. Must be able to do strenuous work with some lifting and carrying of small items on the job. Licensed to drive 4x6 wheel closed vans and must have obtained training or certification in handling hazardous materials, Occupational Safety, Hazardous Waste Operation and IAC CCSF authorized screener. Must be proficient in MS Office and Oracle-based programs and available to work on evenings and weekend hours.

Specialized Truck Driver (7)

High School graduate with at least 2 years experience operating trucks or vans with a capacity of at least 10,001 pounds gross vehicle weight (GVW) or 10 to 16-wheeled vehicles. Must have a valid commercial driver's license (CDL). Must have at least 3 years experience in hauling petroleum products with the corresponding SMITHS & STOPS training certification, carrying hazardous materials or oversized loads plus certificates or training in handling hazardous materials and cargoes is a must. Must be able to follow strict safety and operations procedures.

Heavy Equipment Truck Driver (3)

High School graduate with at least 2 years experience operating trucks or vans with a capacity of at least 10,001 pounds gross vehicle weight (GVW) or 10 to 16-wheeled vehicles. Must have a valid commercial driver's license (CDL). Experience in carrying hazardous materials or oversized loads plus certificates or training in handling hazardous materials and cargoes is a must. Must be able to follow strict safety and operations procedures.

Shipping and Receiving Clerk (5)

Associate's Degree and at least 2 years work related experience. Must be proficient in MS Office programs as well as other planning and logistics software. Knowledge of supply chain, shipping operations and procedures, document preparation and recordkeeping is required. Should possess good interpersonal and verbal communication skills.

Truck Mechanic

Vocational or High School Graduate. Must be able to diagnose, adjust, repair, or overhaul trucks, or maintain and repair any type of engines. Minimum of two (2) year work experience is required on these areas: lubrication, repairs and servicing, use of machine tools, welding and flame cutting, engine elements, gears, brakes, transmission, exhausts, etc. Proficiency in critical devices for fuel tank trucks is a must.

Automotive Body Repairer

Formal Auto Body Training in a Vocational School is required as well as a minimum of one-year experience in repairing and refinishing automotive vehicle bodies' vehicle frames. Proficiency in automotive body painting is required.

Janitor

Dependable attendance, hard working and follows directions well. Must be available to work early mornings, late nights and weekends.

A pre-employment drug testing will be required. Salaries will be commensurate with qualification and experience. For applications to be considered, they should submit resume / application to CTSI Logistics, Lower Base not later than May 29, 2015.

We are an Equal Opportunity Employer.
Women, minorities and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.

Road-clearing begins for Kagman paving project

By JAYSON CAMACHO
jayson.camacho@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Almost two months after groundbreaking, road clearing is now being done to prepare for the paving of four roads in Precinct 5.

Hawaiian Rock started the road clearing on Chopak Drive in Kagman. More than 1,000 feet has been cleared from the intersection point of Forbidden Island Road and Chopak Drive, according to Rep. Lorenzo Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan).

The drainage area is also being cleared of vegetation for the runoff leading downward to a designated basin.

Hawaiian Rock started the road clearing Wednesday last week.

"Right now they are clearing everything, all these debris here [intersection between Chopak and Dyers Fig Street] will be removed as soon as the contractors are done clearing further down Chopak Drive," Deleon Guerrero said.

"Hopefully they can finish this fast. Residents are happy right now in the area because

paving is finally being done and hopefully by August the paving will be done," he added.

Aside from Chopak Drive, the three other roads that will finally be paved are Pine Drive and Mangga Street in Kagman III and Katbun Road in San Vicente.

The funding for the road-paving projects was made possible after Gov. Eloy S. Inos signed a local law in July 2014 appropriating more than \$2.17 million in bond funds for Saipan projects. Of the \$2.17 million, \$600,000 went to the Precinct 5 road-paving project.

Since the first issuance of homesteads in Kagman III in December 1993, roads in phases 3 and 4 of the village has had little to no paved roads. Twenty-two years later, Kagman III will finally see actual groundwork on three of its roads with one other road paving in San Vicente.

One these are done, Deleon Guerrero and Precinct 5 colleague Rep. Francis S. Taimanao (Ind-Saipan) aim to also fix roads in Kannat Tabla and Kagman IV.



Rep. Lorenzo Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan) points to the large pile of debris and vegetation taken after a road clearing of more than a 1,000 feet along Chopak Drive. The pile, which is blocking the intersection between Chopak and Dyers Figg Street, will soon be removed. This is part of four Precinct 5 roads to be paved.

JAYSON CAMACHO

'BUILDING A STRONGER COMMONWEALTH WITH YOU SINCE 1985'

HANMI launches anniversary logo contest

The Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands is holding a logo contest this month to mark its 30th anniversary.



niversary activities, visit the HANMI 30th Anniversary Facebook page at www.facebook.com/HANMI30.

HANMI was established in 1985 as a professional forum for the hospitality industry of

the NMI. Today the association is composed of 11 of the major hotels in the Northern Marianas serving a diversity of markets including Korea, Japan, China, and Russia. The association also has a growing number of associate members in related industries. (HANMI)

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

BOARD OF PAROLE

P.O. BOX 502641, Saipan, MP 96950-2641
Tel: NOS.: (670) 664-3300 – 3304 FAX: (670) 664-3310
E-mail: gobop@pticom.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

Executive Meeting Agenda
May 22, 2015
Department of Public Safety
Training Room, Susupe, Saipan

1. Preliminary Matters
A) Call to Order
B) Roll Call
C) Presence of Quorum

2. New Business
A) Review Applicants for Chief Position

3. Miscellaneous
A) Other Matters

4. Adjournment

If you have any questions, please call the Parole Office at telephone number 664-3300 or 3302.

/s/ Jonathan T. Tenorio
Acting Chief, Board of Parole



Global Flavor Profiles at Kili

LIVE STATION: SHABU SHABU BAR
RENDEZVOUS: 20 MAY 2015, FROM 6PM - 9PM

Every Wednesday throughout May, we are highlighting global flavor profiles. This week's shabu shabu special will present thinly sliced Certified Angus Beef® cooked to tender perfection.

Engage with our chefs at the live station as they prepare Japanese specialties such as thinly sliced Certified Angus Beef® strip loin with tofu, seasonal vegetables, noodles, mushrooms and dumplings, all paired with sauce to guests' liking.

Price: US\$42 per person. Club at the Hyatt® members are welcome. Inclusive of Murphy-Goode® wines. Call +1 670 234 1234 ext 26 for more information. We proudly serve Certified Angus Beef®. Hyatt. You're More Than Welcome.

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MURPHY-GOODE

CERTIFIED ANGUS BEEF

'HOW MAY WE ASSIST YOU?'

Hyatt wants to know how it can help your non-profit

"How may I assist you?" is a question guests are frequently asked when calling Hyatt Regency Saipan. It signifies the hotel's desire to express care by finding way to assist guests and make their Hyatt experience a truly meaningful one. Hyatt Regency Saipan now echoes the very same question to all the non-profit organiza-

tions on the island: "How may we assist you?"

Through its corporate responsibility platform Hyatt Thrive, Hyatt Regency Saipan will host the 20th Charity Golf Classic. This milestone event is a vehicle to raise funds on behalf of the Make-A-Wish Foundation as well as another local non-profit organization of our choos-

ing. The organization must be active within one of the four pillars of Hyatt Thrive: environmental sustainability, economic development and investment, education and career readiness, and health and wellness.

From the funds raised in 2014 amounting to \$40,000, the hotel donated \$20,000 to the Make-A-Wish Foundation

to help grant the wishes of an NMI child with life-threatening medical conditions. Also, \$10,000 will be appropriated to the CNMI Salvation Army's Soup Kitchen and other infrastructural improvements. A total of \$10,000 will be used to aid Ayuda Network's initiatives on health and disease-prevention. Help Hyatt Regency Saipan as-

sist non-profit organizations in making an impact on the local community. How may we assist you? Here's how to apply:

The non-profit organization must write a letter stating how it helps (or can help) make the local community a place where employees want to work, guests want to visit, our neighbors want to live, and investors want to invest. The letter must also state how a partnership with Hyatt Regency Saipan can help in advancing its mission, vision and goals (with all these stated). The organization must also be active within one of the four pillars of

Hyatt Thrive. For more information visit www.thrive.hyatt.com.

Submit your non-profit organization's information pack and address it to the following contact details:

Josephine Mesta
Director of Human Resources
Hyatt Regency Saipan
P.O. Box 5087 CHRB Saipan,
MP, 96950

The selection of the non-profit organization will be decided based on votes cast by the hotel's executive committee members. The information pack must be submitted on or before May 30, 2015. (Hyatt)

CDA has vetted recent Senate QC bill

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Development Authority said last week their recommendations to a recently passed Senate bill allowing qualifying certificates for hotel-casinos on Tinian and Rota were met.

CDA oversees the qualifying certificate program in the CNMI.

CDA executive director Manuel Sablan said they were

asked to provide comment on the bill in draft form. He said these were included in the bill that was passed two weeks ago.

One comment that made it to the bill, which amends the Investment Incentive Act of 2000, is that it "only applies to a hotel-casino complex," Sablan said.

Sablan clarified the bill would not apply to any casino activity outside that complex.

"That's basically the thrust behind this. It's to promote hotel-casino development," he said.

Sablan said another comment was there to be "no retroactivity."

"No one would be grandfathered on this arrangement going forward," he said.

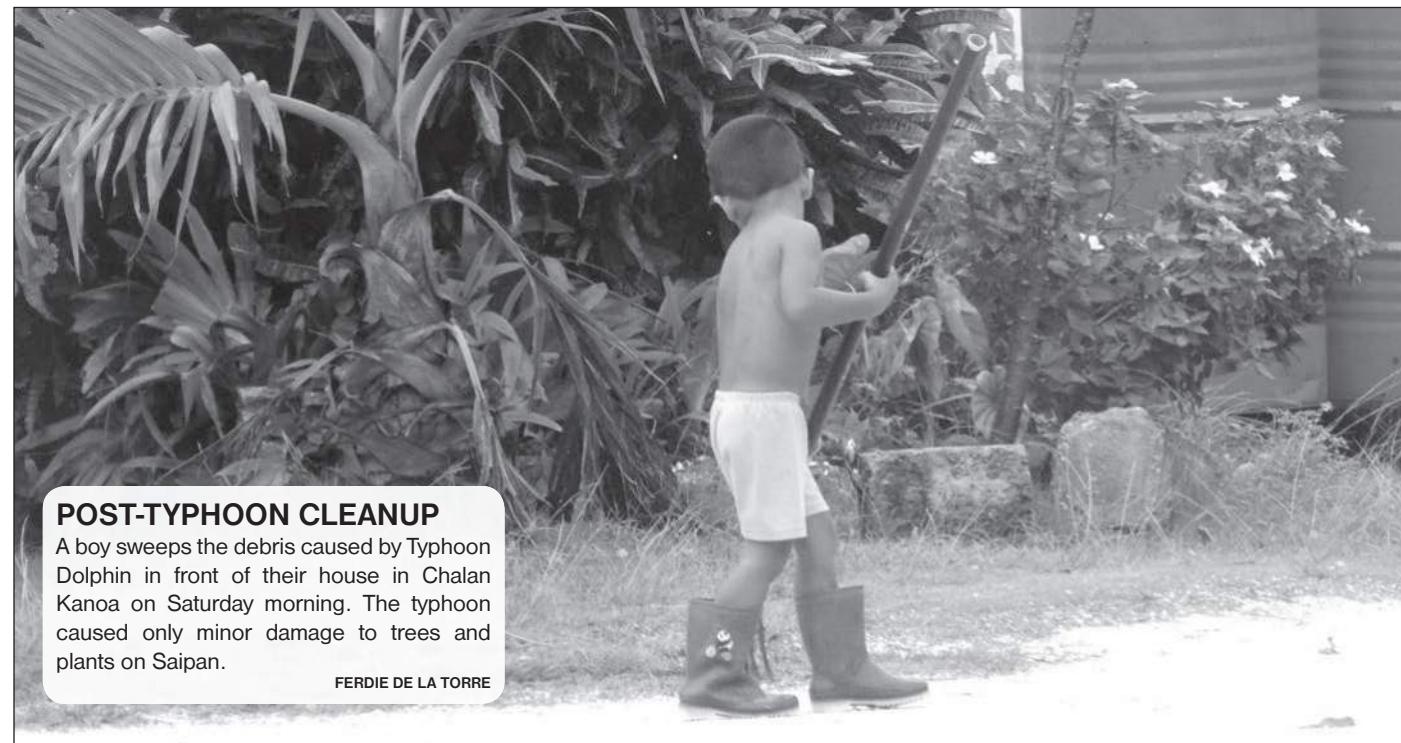
If not, he explained, the statute would apply to an investment that has already been made.

"The purpose of the QC [program] is to attract new investments," he said, adding that their aim was to not provide a QC to an "investment that has

already been deployed."

"If this thing would help to further develop Rota and Tinian, then let's get going. It's basically a vehicle for them to induce investments in those areas," he said.

Senate Bill 19-36, authored by Sen. Francisco Borja (Ind-Tinian), "removes obstacles to continued and future investment" on Rota and Tinian and amends the eligibility for qualifying certificates for casinos on the islands of Tinian and Rota to promote tourism and ongoing economic development on those islands.



POST-TYPHOON CLEANUP

A boy sweeps the debris caused by Typhoon Dolphin in front of their house in Chalan Kanoa on Saturday morning. The typhoon caused only minor damage to trees and plants on Saipan.

FERDIE DE LA TORRE

Flashback A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

May 19, 2010

6 DPS personnel test positive for marijuana use

Six Department of Public Safety personnel on Saipan have been found positive for illegal drug use during a random drug test conducted by DPS last March, according to DPS deputy commissioner Ambrosio Ogunmoro yesterday. Ogunmoro disclosed that two police officers and four firefighters turned up positive for marijuana use, prompting DPS to issue suspension with termination notices. "They are suspended and awaiting termination. There are already two who get terminated—one police officer and one firefighter," he

said. Ogunmoro said the random drug test covered all DPS uniformed and civilian personnel, including himself and Commissioner Santiago Tudela.

SPED needs more specialists; 13 'hard-to-fill' posts open

The lack of specialists and the difficulty of finding qualified individuals for the Public School System's special education program continues to be among its biggest challenges. Based on the Board of Education's vacancy announcements posted on May 14, PSS currently needs 13 specialists to serve students with special needs on all three islands. These hard-to-fill positions include audiologists, speech

language pathologist, physical therapist, occupational therapist, specialist for deaf and hard of hearing, visually impaired specialist, education psychologist, itinerant reading specialist, special education coordinator, and special education teacher.

May 19, 2008

Alien workers' group seeks help from FBI, DPS over death threat

A leader of alien workers' group yesterday sought help from the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Department of Public Safety after he received a death threat. The workers' group leader went to FBI's office yesterday morning to report the threat on his life then proceeded to DPS headquarters to file a complaint. The group leader, who requested anonymity for security purposes, told Saipan Tribune he was a little bit scared, but that this would not stop him from leading their

group's cause for justice and fairness. "I guess it's (threat) part of the game. But this will not stop me from exercising my rights to express under the U.S. democratic system," he said.

Person allegedly engaged in illegal sponsorship arrested

One of three persons who were allegedly engaged in illegal sponsorship of 19 alien workers was arrested in San Antonio Friday afternoon. Stacy N. Bautista, also known as Stacy N. Dela Cerna, 36, was arrested for document fraud, conspiracy to commit document fraud, unlawful employment of aliens, conspiracy to commit unlawful employment of aliens, inducement by fraudulent misrepresentation, and immigration and labor entrepreneurship fraud. The Superior Court also issued a warrant for the arrest of co-defendants Elenita E. Camacho and Weena P. Dulay for the same

charges. As of yesterday, it was not clear yet whether Camacho and Dulay were arrested.

May 19, 2005

Admin needs only to enforce, not impose, new poker fees

If the administration is dead-set in collecting more fees from poker operations, then it only needs to enforce the necessary rules and regulations and not impose additional fees, according to the House leadership. "We believe that if the enforcement is dealt with, then we would have more revenues. And that should be a first step, even before they impose a \$6,000 additional charge because, after all, you can't even collect what is legally due right now. How will you reasonably expect to collect \$6,000 in additional fees?" said House leadership spokesman Charles Reyes Jr. Part of the enforcement would

be the imposition of penalties against violators, he said.

'Economy still pretty darn good'

According to Republican Gov. Juan N. Babauta, the state of the Commonwealth "is still pretty darn good." In his nine-page State of the Commonwealth Address delivered yesterday morning at the Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe, Babauta said that, despite major economic challenges brought about by local and international events—9/11 attacks, SARS, tsunami, Bali bombing, Iraq war, and recently the lifting of the World Trade quotas that adversely affected the local garment industry—the CNMI economy continues to survive. Quoting President Bush, Babauta said that the CNMI people—as are all Americans since 2001—"have been given new hills to climb and found the strength to climb them."

Taste of the Marianas returns May 23



D'Elegance Café and 17 other food and beverage vendors will return to serve up dinner and dessert at the 17th Annual Taste of the Marianas International Food Festival & Beer Garden on May 23, 2015, beginning at 6pm at American Memorial Park.

Find out more about integrated resorts—for free

Are you familiar with the industry of integrated resorts? Would you like to find out what an integrated resort is? What do you expect from an integrated resort? Will you benefit from it? Will you be left out from any opportunity, if any, from an integrated resort? Are our people qualified to work at jobs in integrated resort? Will social problems and crimes rise and impact our island lifestyles? How will our quality of life be impacted by integrated resorts?

An opportunity to learn and understand integrated resort for yourself is now being offered, thanks to the favorable response by Best Sunshine International, Ltd. to sponsor the "Integrated Resort Fact Finding Contest." A group of up to 10 Saipanese U.S. citizen locals will travel abroad to a country that has integrated resorts to find out for

themselves what such an industry does and how it impacts the social and economic livelihoods of the people. They will interact with various sectors of integrated resorts, including consumers, local residents, visitors, clients, management and staff, regulatory institutions, law enforcement, and compile their facts and findings to frame their perspectives independently and voluntarily. Upon their return they will appear on John Gonzales LIVE to personally share what they saw, experienced, and learned from the fact-finding trip about integrated resorts.

The contest runs up until 12pm on May 25, 2015, the deadline by which an interested contestant or applicant must submit a one-page essay justifying why he/she is interested and what he/she expects from participating in the "Integrated Resort Fact Finding Contest." Selected winners will be notified and will travel abroad immediately after they are notified. Criteria for selection are:

- U.S. citizen, locals domiciled on Saipan, Northern Marianas;
- Holders of valid U.S. passports no less than six months from expiration and able to travel in a day's notice;
- Must be 18 years or older; and
- Must be any of the following status: retiree, college student, community leader, unemployed but employable.

Submit essay electronically to johngonzaleslive@gmail.com no later than the deadline of 12pm on Monday, May 25, 2015. (PR)

Following last Saturday's cancellation due to Typhoon Dolphine, the 17th Annual Taste of the Marianas International Food Festival & Beer Garden returns this Saturday, May 23, with a full entertainment line-up beginning at 6pm.

The CNMI Saipan Awadori Japanese dance group will kick off the night at 6pm, followed by the visiting traditional Japanese group Nenpou Shinkyo at 6:30pm. The entertainment con-

tinues with ballet by Ana Glushko Academy at 7pm, Luis Laforte at 8pm, Polynesian group Tekahnahau at 8:30pm, and Blue Dream Band at 9:30pm.

In addition, the NMI Bartenders' Cocktail Competition will begin at 7pm on the back stage.

"We're all grateful that Typhoon Dolphine passed quickly last week," said Marianas Visitors Authority Community Projects manager Martin Duenas. "We thank our partners for their

cooperation with the cancellation, especially the breakdown of the site, and we are looking forward to continuing the festival this Saturday."

The event brings some of the best of island cuisine and entertainment to American Memorial Park every Saturday evening beginning at 6pm in May as part of the monthlong celebration of Tourism Month in the Northern Mariana Islands. The MVA, the Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands, and the National Park Service jointly host the annual event. (MVA)



Tony Roma's/Capricciosa and 17 other food and beverage vendors will return to serve up dinner and dessert at the 17th Annual Taste of the Marianas International Food Festival & Beer Garden on May 23, 2015, beginning at 6pm at American Memorial Park.

NMC offices closed today, May 19

Northern Marianas College employees will be participating in a professional development activity at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center today, May 19, 2015. All NMC offices will be closed today to ensure maximum

employee participation.

The new/returning student orientation (for summer 2015 enrollment) and any pre-arranged final exams scheduled for May 19, 2015, will proceed as scheduled.

We apologize for any inconvenience caused. For any campus emergency, contact NMC Security at 234-5498 Ext. 1911. For more information about upcoming events, visit www.marianas.edu. (NMC)

SSFM
INTERNATIONAL

ENGINEERING JOB FAIR-Rescheduled Due to Weather Condition

Engineering Opportunities in Guam for Construction Management and Quality Assurance

Join us to find out about potential engineering positions available soon in Guam.

Revised Schedule

When: Thursday, May 21, 2015, 9 am thru 4 pm

Place: SSFM CNMI, LLC Office

Chalan Pal'e Arnold St., 2nd Floor, Tun Kiku Building, Garapan, Saipan, MP 96950

General description of the positions will be made available at the job fair. Interested applicants must be willing to relocate.

SSFM International, Inc. is an EEO/Affirmative Action Employer

Opinion

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AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Nurses and medics

The imposing Commonwealth Health Center on Navy Hill stands as a people's edifice. The physical plant reminds us of an imposing colonial center with stiff nurses, doctors and other medical staff in high-pocketed white gowns or light blue attires. The CHC nurses adopted pajama tops as alternative attire, not inappropriate for the night shift.

It is claimed that 90 percent of all MDs in the United States a century ago had no college education! They attended medical schools condemned by the press and the government as "substandard." Nurses were MDs' go-fer. Nurses still train in China as a vocational choice for those who fail college entry exam. It is offered as a BSN in other places.

Pea Eye was a source of degreed nurses in the CNMI coming over to pass the NCLEX (National Council Licensure Examination) and serving local clinics. An enterprising private school brought in Shanghai nurses to prepare for the standardized test, and three shifted to NMC, prompting the government to issue student visas for the first time.

The NCLEX then offered the exam in Manila and Hong Kong, resulting in an alleged airline discontinuing direct MNL-SPN flights. NCLEX test takers are presently locally taught, though stragglers from elsewhere still line up to take the Pearson-administered test.

With advances in science, the lab coats supplanted tonsured heads in explaining the structure of the universe. The quarks and the black holes to the sub-atomic energy field of neutrons and electrons—once the sacred fields of astrology and alchemy before Methodists and Presbyterians put up clinics and hospitals—were transformed into disciplined telescoping into the stars in the equatorial clear skies and dispensing mercury following Hermes whose *caduceus* (mirror image snakes on a walking staff topped by wings) entered as a symbol of health-care organizations and medical practice in North America.

The surgical sophistication of medical institutions outside of the CNMI receives the referrals from the government, the one in Metro Manila for the *hoi polloi*, and the pink elephant up Oahu's hills for vets and the well-connected. CHC of Saipan may lack the fineries of surgical services, but the staff looks good in their uniforms!

We aim neither to be trite nor capricious. MDs in the NMI trail the medical list in income tally, serving as pediatricians, family MDs, diabetes and endocrine disorder relievers, internal medicine, and rheumatoid helpers, averaging \$190K-205K per annum—about a hundredth of Floyd Mayweather's take for shuffling 12 rounds with Manny Pacquiao!

Conversely, orthopedics tops the list at \$420K per annum, followed by cardiologist, relief givers on gastroenteritis, anesthetics and plastic surgeons. The latter corners the market in Korea, Manila and northeast China where looking good and staying young is at a high premium. The list of MDs continues with radiology, urology, dermatology, general surgery, and emergency medicine as the next top five from a total list of 26 specialties.

To keep distance from MDs and clinics, mind your greens and stay healthy.

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All That's Left



Partisanship vs 'being human'

Tuesday night I went through a crash course in what really matters, in humanity, in mortality. I was watching the news reports about the Amtrak derailment, and amid my secondhand anguish for injured strangers I thanked God, literally thanked him out loud, for the fact that my immigration hearing in Baltimore had been canceled. Had it not been, I might have been sitting in one of those mangled cars.

But relief quickly and seamlessly turned into fear, as I realized a person I hold dear and dearly in my heart travels regularly on that route, commuting between her homes in Philly and New York. It was midnight, but I didn't care. I called her phone and barely keeping my voice steady I disguised a plea as a simple inquiry: "Are you OK?"

She was. Seven long hours later she called me back, apologized for having turned her ringer off that night and assured me she was safe at home, in New York.

It was a happy ending. And yet the panic I felt at the moment I called was so visceral and potent that I can still recall it as I write these words, many hours later. I'm sure anyone who has been in that similar situation, ignorant of the outcome but hoping for the best, can relate. Mothers of deployed soldiers, wives of police officers, fellow comrades of firefighters on other ladders—all of them become aware of the tensile thin thread that binds us to our lived ones and a normal life.

So Tuesday-into-Wednesday reinforced my appreciation for the fragility of relationships and the miracle of being spared tragedy, when you stand in no better shoes and are equally deserving of suffering as the afflicted ones.

And that's why what happened afterward saddened and angered but didn't surprise me. Bodies were still being transported to hospitals; sirens were still wailing and lights still flashing; a mayor was rising far above the low expectations he'd been saddled with and became truly heroic in the last stage of his administration; first responders acted like the heroes they'd always been.

And in those same moments of crisis and chaos, the media types started spinning their looms to knit stories that would achieve the ratings they so dearly craved. Political and partisan considerations began to creep into the pens and voices of journalists and pundits, and suddenly it became all about how the Republicans were opposed to funding infrastructure repairs because they hated the president.

At first, I attributed my impression that the focus was being lost to the fact that I hadn't gotten much sleep and was still rattled by the tragedy. I really didn't want to believe that a tragedy could be so quickly politicized after the recent debacle in Baltimore. Surely we learned our lesson, I thought.

Naivete, thy name is Christine.

The spin on this tragedy was more subtle than the one in Baltimore, but it was clearly there. The fingers, instead of being pointed

By CHRISTINE M. FLOWERS
Philadelphia Daily News

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directly in the face of police officers and "white society" were delicately gesturing in the direction of conservatives who would supposedly sacrifice the safety of these poor passengers to their unwillingness to cooperate with the president.

It's depressing to see how quickly the thought monitors jump into action at the first sign of an opportunity. You would think that these political opportunists would wait until the smell of blood had dissipated before coming out with their suggestions that it was all the fault of the GOP.

In fact, they would have looked less ridiculous had they waited, since we now know the train was traveling at 106 mph. Hard to argue that "infrastructure" was at fault, but why let facts get in the way of a good political talking point?

On the other hand, they're no better than my conservative friends who in the wake of 9/11 found it opportune to blame Bill Clinton for ignoring acts of terror like the bombing of the Cole and laying the responsibility for the World Trade Center tragedy at his feet, even though President Bush had been in office a full nine months by that point.

Still, liberals seem more motivated to blame conservatives for the evils of the world, in part because they suffer from a paranoia that transforms opposition to the White House agenda into personal hatred for Obama.

But there is enough blame to go around.

Truly, we are creatures of habit. The moment something catastrophic happens, we look for a simple answer, easy to cram into sound bites and man-on-the-street interviews. In those moments between apprehension for my friend's welfare and certainty that she was safe, I felt my humanity and helplessness quite keenly. I didn't wonder if conservatives bleed more profusely than liberals, or if the children that were being thrown about in the mangled train cars went to public or parochial schools. It didn't matter.

But that sense of community doesn't last very long in an atmosphere charged with partisan angling, where being on this side or that is what matters more than "being" human.

The only pure people in this whole affair are those who rushed around, in darkness, to save lives.

If only there were more of them.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Retirees running out of time (in more ways than one)

By WILLIAM H. STEWART
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

There is ample documented evidence that for more than 10 years there have been many attempts on the part of various administrations and members of the Legislature to degrade and diminish the government's contractual and constitutional obligation to both its loyal retirees and those active participating members yet to retire.

In some instances they have almost succeeded in eroding the future financial security of retirees, only to be temporarily thwarted by the federal court, at least until 2019 when pensions may be dependent upon CNMI government contributions.

Consider that date as compared to the next election in 2016—a distance of only three years. As a retiree doesn't that tell you it's time to get involved and take action?

This group must become an active force in NMI politics and speak with one voice.

I refer, of course, to all retirees, but especially those "on-island" as well as their dependents and friends and in particular those harboring the fear that their long-term financial security is in jeopardy. I refer to those who are aware their pension lifeline may not be available as the future unfolds unless both the administration and the Legislature act now to repair a "broken" and dying retirement system—and not with the usual "cop out" with band-aids. A permanent, long-term fix is necessary and soon—which is already 5 minutes to midnight.

As a retiree, economist and author, I have expressed concern many times in print and email over the deteriorating condition of the future financial security of those retirees dependent solely on a CNMI pension for their livelihood and that of their household members.

Remember, the CNMI government chose to "opt-out" from participation but has been unusually generous to certain politicians, which was ultimately wrecked by an impeached governor.

As the future unfolds, if the situation is not corrected and soon, the number involved who will likely be potentially financially dam-

aged in varying degrees according to data published in an April 16 *Variety* article could total in the neighborhood of approximately 2,395 retirees, 590 spouses, and 600 or so surviving children.

According to a communication from the federal court dated April 15 (regarding Civil Case No. 09-00023), we can anticipate learning the current number of retirees and their dependents along with other demographics of this group from information to be provided in the next quarterly report rendered by the Settlement Trustee.

Meanwhile, to get to the crux of the matter, in my humble opinion, retirees need to organize and work (emphasis on "work") on the election of the next governor as well as members of the Legislature who will commit themselves to work together to cooperate and solve the problems facing not only the islands' growth but also those of retirees and their families.

For too long candidates for office often only give lip service to important matters of concern to retirees and other residents, with the result that real changes in some instances have been long in coming—24-hour islandwide potable water is one example of many others. There is the uncollected outstanding \$5 million Judiciary Building loan that should have been paid off in March. The retiree computer software mess is another. A deliverable paid in advance but never delivered.

And let's not forget the inexcusable neglect in establishing a long term, sustainable retirement fund for all (that's ALL) future NMI government employees who certainly deserve an adequate retirement as, for example, that provided U.S. government employees after rendering their service to the community.

A strong, long-term, sustainable defined benefit (DB) retirement program—one which the retirees had—but *lost* when their government abandoned the DB plan and replaced it with a defined contribution (DC) plan. A plan far from being an adequate, annuity provided retirement for an island economy. One which is geographically isolated from the myriad of available, alternative and diverse job opportunities to replace one's lost pension income when it comes to that.

It must be realized, unlike those residing within, say, a continental

By WILLIAM H. STEWART
Special to the Saipan Tribune

William H. Stewart is a forensic scientist, economist, and historian.



landmass, people in the NMI can't just jump in the car and drive to Ohio to seek employment if they lose a dependable source of island income such as their pension. While there are exceptions, however, for the most part usually most residents are confined to the islands' limited employment opportunities.

Retirees must not forget that the government reneged on adhering to its own Constitution not to diminish the Fund. It is guilty of flagrantly breaking a contract with the retirees—a serious act that calls into question if, indeed, the law has any meaning in the NMI if, or when, a particular issue does not meet the government's measure of concern—whatever that expediency might happen to be at the time.

If the sanctity of contract can be considered in such a cavalier, disdainful attitude the question must be posed what other NMI contracts might be ignored with impunity as the future unfolds?

Knowledgeable, dynamic leadership is needed to solve the problems facing the NMI's future as well as those of retirees.

While I wish to make it abundantly clear to the reader, the individual mentioned below, who is a friend of more than 40 years, is unaware of my suggestion for his gubernatorial consideration—I suggest those retirees "on-island" consider the one man with a proven record of civic concern. A man who is truly a "Mr. Fix-it." I refer to David M. Sablan, and drafting him for the next governor—or if need be as a ballot "write-in" candidate for chief executive when the time comes.

Think about it.

By DICK MEYER
Scripps Washington Bureau



Dick Meyer is Chief Washington Correspondent for the Scripps Washington Bureau and DecodeDC (www.newsnet5.com/decodedc). Readers may send him email at dick.meyer@scripps.com.

with your coffee, sir? Batteries with that toaster?

Waiters and waitresses are made to talk like Waitrons. "Is everything still excellent?" "Are you finished or still enjoying your ferret stew?" And the one that started it all, "My name is Carmine, and I'll be your server today." Who talks like this?

What's sad about these in-person spiffs is that they turn service people into robots. They aren't selling in the old sense; they're following scripts generated by focus groups and Big Data. This dehumanizes buyer and seller.

What's a mother to do? Go hermit? Join the "slow media" movement? Reincarnate Andy Rooney? Shut up and take it?

I know I'm a hypocrite. My whole career in the news business has been paid for by advertising. So, on behalf of my profession and my ilk, I apologize.

And please, enjoy taking a brief survey about the excellent service you received in this content written especially for you.

identities amongst humanity's oceans of peoples? A mission to save our waters and lands along with the many innocent creatures on land and sea that co-exist with us in our region of the world? A mission to fight for our very survival as peace-loving peoples of the Marianas who want nothing more than to be left alone to raise our families and live off these sacred lands we call home? This is my life's mission—I claim it, I own it, and I humbly invite you all to embrace it as well.

Our journey has just begun; we have many, many more hills to climb before we will conquer the mountain. But, remember these lessons well—divide and conquer. We must not allow the military or anyone to divide and conquer us. United we stand; divided we fall.

May God bless and protect us all and may God bless our Commonwealth of the Mariana Islands.

Si yu'us ma'ase, olomwaay, and thank you.

Cinta M. Kaipat

AltZero Steering Committee Member
PaganWatch, Beautify CNMI! and UNIA

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Our greatest mission is upon us

Hafa adai, tirow, and hello, my friends:

Friends, there may be many missions in life, but I guarantee you that far fewer will ever come close to matching the importance and historic significance of the mission we are currently undertaking. For what could be more important than today's mission to save our home islands from massive destruction and poison at the hands of the U.S. military? A mission to protect our very limited and precious land resources so we will have something to leave to our children and their children's children? A mission to preserve and protect our cultures and cultural artifacts—our cultural DNA that claims us and gives us our unique

Shame on us sheep for sitting through those 16 minutes for all these years.

But now the worthlessness of TV and print advertising is inspiring the devil worshippers in the advertising and tech industries to find ingenious and insidious ways to insert product propaganda into every nook and cranny of our attention span and unwitting subconscious. Computing power makes this cheap and easy; our behavior is traceable, so they supposedly know what we want and what we'll do.

The creepiest kind of marketing is online. The wizards of algorithms have figured out how to insinuate marketing "input" into every move you make online. Your own attention has morphed into a billboard with infinite space on the information highway—that you don't control.

Emails deliver ads, and ads are embedded in your personal email and social media. Cheesier sites have pop-up ads I can't remove or auto-play video I can't shut up. Some (most?) news sites have what is euphemistically called sponsored-content, ads disguised as authentic news stories. Apps have teeny, tiny ads. Many of the sites I visit regularly have "targeted ads" that know I like bass fishing, the Chicago Bears and donuts. I even get spam texts.

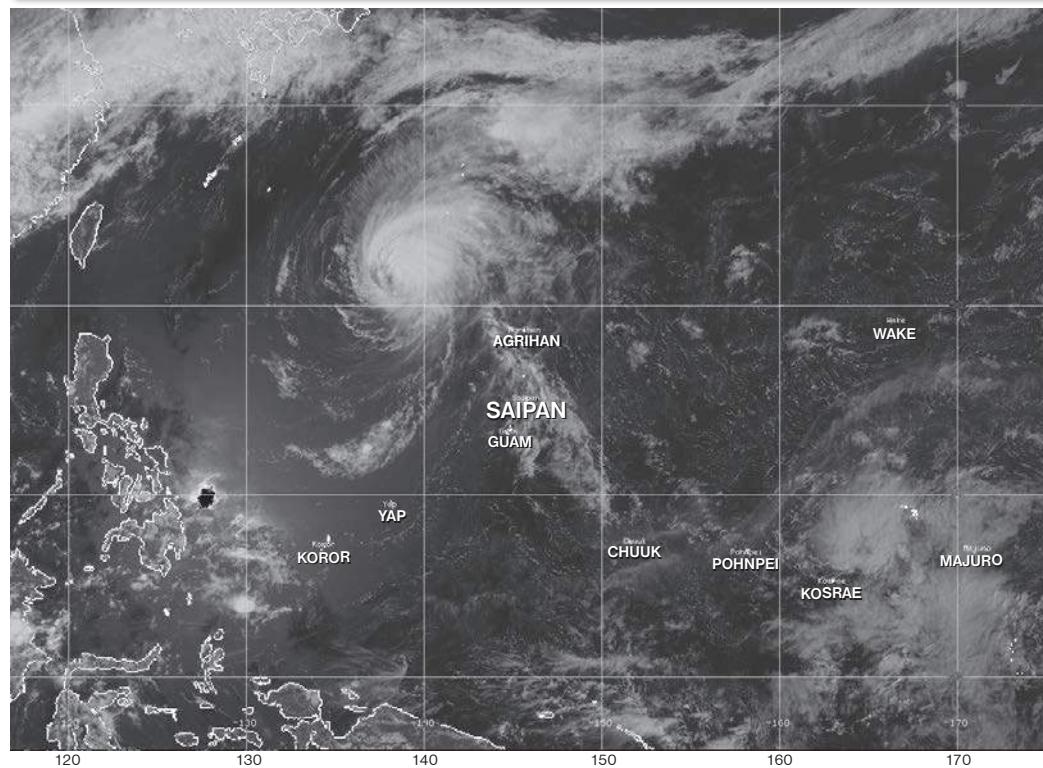
You would think with all this technology, spam would already be

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly sunny with isolated showers.	Partly sunny with isolated showers.
▲ 86° ▾ 77°	▲ 86° ▾ 77°	▲ 88° ▾ 77°	▲ 88° ▾ 77°	▲ 88° ▾ 77°

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, MONDAY, MAY 18, 2015

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Typhoon Dolphin (07W) is centered 675 miles northwest of Guam near 21N139E moving north at 9 mph with maximum sustained winds of 125 mph. Heavy rain and scattered thunderstorms are occurring within 160 miles of 22N140E. Otherwise scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are found farther from Dolphin within 190 miles of a line from 20N138E to 25N142E. For more information on Typhoon Dolphin see bulletins issued by The Joint Typhoon Warning Center under WMO header WTPN32 PGTW and The National Weather Service under WMO header WTPQ32 PGUM. Low-level convergence southeast of Typhoon Dolphin is generating scattered showers near the Marianas within 90 miles of a line from 17N145E to 13N147E. A weak tropical disturbance is centered just north of Kosrae near 7N163E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are seen across portions of Kosrae state and the Marshalls between the equator and 10N from 162E to 172E.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

Micronesia

Guam And Rota	Thunderstorms	▲ 85 ▾ 81
Palau	Mostly Sunny	▲ 89 ▾ 78
Yap	Mostly Sunny	▲ 87 ▾ 76
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲ 86 ▾ 80
Pohnpei	Mostly Sunny	▲ 85 ▾ 74
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	▲ 85 ▾ 80
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲ 86 ▾ 82

Around the Globe

Auckland	Partly Cloudy	▲ 63 ▾ 58
Beijing	Windy	▲ 85 ▾ 59
Hong Kong	Thunderstorms	▲ 87 ▾ 80
Honolulu	Showers	▲ 82 ▾ 69
London	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 65 ▾ 51
Los Angeles	Mostly Sunny	▲ 69 ▾ 54
Manila	Mostly Sunny	▲ 94 ▾ 79
Melbourne	Sunny	▲ 69 ▾ 55
Miami	Thunderstorms	▲ 84 ▾ 76
New York	Cloudy	▲ 84 ▾ 67
Osaka	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 78 ▾ 67
Paris	Mostly Sunny	▲ 68 ▾ 47
Pusan	Rain	▲ 68 ▾ 57
Rome	Partly Cloudy	▲ 89 ▾ 63
Salem	Partly Cloudy	▲ 73 ▾ 49
San Francisco	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 59 ▾ 51
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	▲ 79 ▾ 58
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	▲ 77 ▾ 65
Washington, DC	Thunderstorms	▲ 83 ▾ 70

Tides

Saipan Harbor			
3:24 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.9 Feet
8:32 AM	Today	High Tide:	2.0 Feet
9:45 PM	Today	Low Tide:	-0.5 Feet
10:34 PM	Today	High Tide:	2.0 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	5:48 AM	6:40 PM
Wednesday	5:48 AM	6:40 PM
Thursday	5:48 AM	6:40 PM
Friday	5:48 AM	6:41 PM
Saturday	5:48 AM	6:41 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	6:36 AM	7:43 PM
Wednesday	7:30 AM	8:39 PM
Thursday	8:24 AM	9:31 PM
Friday	9:18 AM	10:20 PM
Saturday	10:10 AM	11:06 PM

Note: Blank spaces indicate that a rising or a setting did not occur during that 24-hour interval.

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NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF APRIL 2, 2015

DEPARTURES			ARRIVALS				
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)			GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN				
UA5070	4:15am	5:05am	Daily	UA5069	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA5068	8:00am	8:50am	3	UA5071	6:40am	7:30am	3
UA5068	8:40am	9:30am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7	UA5071	7:15am	8:05am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
UA5039	2:15pm	3:55pm	6, 7 via Rota	UA5039	12:55pm	1:45pm	6, 7
UA5078	3:05pm	3:55pm	1, 5	UA5038	1:00pm	2:35pm	2, 4 via Rota
UA5038	3:05pm	3:55pm	2, 4	UA5077	1:45pm	2:35pm	1, 5
UA5040	6:55pm	7:45pm	1, 5	UA5041	5:35pm	6:25pm	1, 5
UA5078	8:35pm	9:25pm	2, 3, 4, 6, 7	UA5077	7:15pm	8:05pm	2, 3, 4, 6, 7
UA5044	10:40pm	11:30pm	1, 5	UA5043	9:20pm	10:10pm	1, 5
SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)			GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)				
UA5039	2:15pm	2:50pm	6, 7	UA5038	1:00pm	1:35pm	2, 4
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)			ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN				
UA5039	3:20pm	3:55pm	6, 7	UA5038	2:00pm	2:35pm	2, 4
SAIPAN-PALAU (ROR)			PALAU (ROR)-SAIPAN				
DL287	6:05am	1:05am+1	2, 6 via NRT	DL298	4:30am	2:55pm	3, 7 via NRT
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)			NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN				
DL287	6:05am	8:45am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6	DL298	10:25am	2:55pm	Daily
DL297	4:20pm	7:10pm	Daily	DL288	8:55pm	1:25am+1	1, 3, 4, 5, 7
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)			SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN				
OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1	OZ623	8:50am	2:20pm	Daily
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	7C3402	9:30am	3:20pm	1, 2, 4, 7
7C3403	4:35am	8:20am	1, 2, 5, 6, 7	7C3402	10:55am	4:25pm	3, 5, 6
7C3403	5:25am	9:10am	3, 4	OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ624	3:30pm	6:55pm	Daily	OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3401	4:20pm	8:05pm	1, 2, 4, 7	7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily
7C3401	5:25pm	9:10pm	3, 5, 6				
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)			BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN				
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7	OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)			SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN				

Business

US says decade-old Gulf oil leak could last another century

WASHINGTON (AP)—For

more than a decade, oil has been leaking into the Gulf of Mexico where a hurricane toppled a drilling company's platform off the coast of Louisiana. Now the federal government is warning that the leak could last another century or more if left unchecked.

Government estimates obtained by The Associated Press provide new details about the scope of a leak that has persisted since Hurricane Ivan in 2004.

Taylor Energy Co., which owned the platform and a cluster of oil wells, has played down

Newly minted consultant must learn expectations of unfamiliar field

YOUR OFFICE COACH

By MARIE G. MCINTYRE

Tribune News Service

Marie G. McIntyre is a workplace coach and the author of Secrets to Winning at Office Politics.



Q : After many years in the corporate world, I decided to start my own business and become an independent consultant. For several months, I have been working with a client whom I knew through my previous job. "Barry" asked me to assist him in creating a marketing program for his small company.

Recently, I learned that Barry has hired an employee to do the same work I have been doing. When I confronted him about this, Barry indicated that he values my skills, but feels he needs additional help. He said that if I decided to leave, he would completely understand. This remark seemed very insulting.

Barry knows I'm not interested in a regular job, but his indifference hurts my feelings. It seems as though he only wants the new guy and doesn't care whether I'm here or not. Am I being too sensitive about this?

A: The move from employment to consulting requires a major shift in expectations, so your reaction is not surprising. But while these feelings are perfectly normal, they are not appropriate for your role, so you should be careful about expressing them.

With long-term clients, consultants often become very involved in the business and develop close working relationships. Over time, this can easily begin to feel like a permanent connection or perhaps even a friendship. However, the cold, hard reality is that consulting is always a temporary association.

In this case, Barry has apparently decided to bring certain responsibilities in-house instead of contracting them out. This frequently occurs when tasks which began as consulting projects expand to require full-time attention. Because Barry knows you aren't available for hire, he found someone else to take the position.

This may feel like a personal betrayal to you, but it's really just business. As you gain more consulting experience, you will gradually begin to realize that projects begin and end, clients come and go, and competitors sometimes get the work. For a consultant, that's simply a routine part of the job.

Q: I have had many discussions with one of my employees about her work habits and office relationships. "Abbey" insists that she pays attention to details, yet I often find errors in her work. She says she gets along well with her co-workers, but I have observed her being confrontational. As a manager, what do you do when your personality and an employee's personality just don't mesh?

A: This is a management relationship, not a marriage, so the issue is not whether your personalities "mesh." The real question is whether Abbey is doing the job she is paid to do. And an equally relevant question is whether you, as her manager, are also earning your paycheck.

If Abbey's results or relationships are unacceptable, then she represents a performance problem. When confronted with performance problems, managers must establish clear expectations, provide appropriate coaching, and, if nothing changes, apply appropriate consequences. So instead of continuing to ponder Abbey's personality, you need to start correcting her behavior.



In this April 21, 2010 file photo by Gerald Herbert, the Deepwater Horizon oil rig burns in the Gulf of Mexico.

the extent and environmental impact of the leak. The company also maintains that nothing can be done to completely eliminate the chronic oil slicks that often stretch for miles off the Louisiana coast.

Taylor has tried to broker a deal with the government to resolve its financial obligations for the leak, but authorities have rebuffed those overtures and have ordered additional work by the company, according to Justice Department officials who were not authorized to comment by name and spoke on condition of anonymity.

"There is still more that can be done by Taylor to control and contain the oil that is discharging" from the site, says an Interior Department fact sheet

obtained by the AP.

Federal regulators suspect oil is still leaking from at least one of 25 wells that remain buried under mounds of sediment from an underwater mudslide triggered by waves whipped up by Hurricane Ivan.

A Taylor contractor drilled new wells to intercept and plug nine wells deemed capable of leaking oil. But a company official has asserted that experts agree the "best course of action ... is to not take any affirmative action" due to the risks of additional drilling.

An AP investigation last month revealed evidence that the leak is far worse than Taylor, or the government, has publicly reported during a secretive response to the slow-motion spill.

The AP's review of more than

2,300 Coast Guard pollution reports since 2008 showed a dramatic spike in sheen sizes and oil volumes since Sept. 1, 2014. That reported increase came just after federal regulators held a workshop last August to improve the accuracy of Taylor's slick estimates and started sending government observers on a Taylor contractor's daily flights over the site.

Presented with AP's findings, the Coast Guard provided a new leak estimate that is about 20 times greater than one recently touted by the company. In a February 2015 court filing, Taylor cited a year-old estimate that oil was leaking at a rate of less than 4 gallons per day.

A Coast Guard fact sheet says sheens as large as 1.5 miles wide

Amtrak to restore full Northeast Corridor service Monday

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—Amtrak's Northeast Corridor trains will resume service Monday in "complete compliance" with federal safety orders following last week's deadly derailment, officials announced Sunday.

Company president Joseph Boardman said Amtrak staff and crew have been working "around the clock" to restore service along the route between Washington and Boston following Tuesday night's crash that killed eight people and injured more than 200 others.

"Our infrastructure repairs have been made with the utmost care and emphasis on infrastructure integrity including complete compliance with Federal Railroad Administration directives," Boardman said in a statement Sunday.

Federal regulators on Saturday ordered Amtrak to expand use of a speed-control system long in effect for southbound trains near the crash site to northbound trains in the same area. The agency also

ordered the company to examine all curves along the Northeast Corridor and determine if more can be done to improve safety, and to increase speed limit signs along the route.

Railroad Administration spokesman Kevin Thompson said Sunday the automatic train control system is now fully operational on the northbound tracks. Trains going through that section of track will be governed by the system, which alerts engineers to slow down when their trains go too fast and automatically applies the brakes if the train continues to speed.

Service along the corridor will resume Monday with the 5:30 a.m. southbound train leaving New York City and the 5:53 a.m. northbound train leaving Philadelphia, and all Acela Express, Northeast Regional and other services will resume for the first time since the accident, the company said.

At a service Sunday evening at the crash site to honor the

victims, Boardman choked up as he called Tuesday "the worst day for me as a transportation professional" and vowed that the train and its passengers "will never be forgotten."

"We'll open with service tomorrow morning, a safer service," Boardman said. "... We quickly made changes and I'm grateful. I'm thankful."

U.S. Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx told the 150 people attending the service that Amtrak acted on the measures ordered by federal regulators over the weekend. He said the company has installed new technology that will monitor and correct train speed, posted new speed limit signs and initiated a study of potentially dangerous curves.

The response was one way to honor the eight passengers killed in the crash, many of whom were riding the train home to their families, he said.

Mayor Michael Nutter praised the work of first responders, hospital personnel

and 14 miles long have been spotted since the workshop. Since last September, the estimated daily volume of oil discharged from the site has ranged from roughly 42 gallons to 2,329 gallons, with a daily average of more than 84 gallons.

Some experts have given far greater estimates of the leak's extent. Based on satellite imagery and pollution reports, the watchdog group SkyTruth estimates between 300,000 and 1.4 million gallons have spilled from the site since 2004, with an annual average daily leak rate between 37 and 900 gallons.

Marylee Orr, executive director of the Louisiana Environmental Action Network, said Taylor must be held responsible for stopping the leak "even if it takes 100 years."

"Every American citizen deserves to feel 100 percent confident that the response to this incident was rapid, effective and protective of the environment—and I don't think we see that at this point," said Orr, whose group is a plaintiff in a lawsuit filed against Taylor by the New York City-based Waterkeeper Alliance.

In 2008, Taylor set aside hundreds of millions of dollars to pay for leak-related work as part of a trust agreement with the Interior Department. The company says it has spent tens of millions of dollars on its efforts to contain and halt the leak, but it hasn't publicly disclosed how much money is left in the trust. The company sold all its offshore leases and oil and gas interests in 2008, four years after founder Patrick Taylor died, and is down to only one full-time employee.

and residents he called "citizen responders" who rushed toward the wreckage with bottled water and who opened their doors to shocked victims. He read the names of the deceased as a bell tolled and eight doves were released just after a choral group sang "Amazing Grace."

Investigators with the National Transportation Safety Board, meanwhile, have focused on the acceleration of the train as it approached the curve, finally reaching 106 mph as it entered the 50-mph stretch north of central Philadelphia, and only managing to slow down slightly before the crash.

"The only way that an operable train can accelerate would be if the engineer pushed the throttle forward. And ... the event recorder does record throttle movement. We will be looking at that to see if that corresponds to the increase in the speed of the train," board member Robert Sumwalt told CNN's "State of the Union."

Nation

Police: 9 dead in Texas shooting, all members of biker gangs

WACO, Texas (AP)—A shootout among rival motorcycle gangs at a popular Central Texas restaurant left nine bikers dead and 18 injured, and it sent panicked patrons and bystanders fleeing for safety, a police spokesman said Sunday.

The violence erupted shortly after noon at a busy Waco shopping center along Interstate 35 that draws a large lunchtime crowd. Waco police Sgt. W. Patrick Swanton said eight people died at the scene of the shooting at Twin Peaks restaurant and another person died at a hospital.

The nine killed were all members of biker gangs, he said, as were the 18 people who were taken to hospitals with injuries that include stab and gunshot wounds. Some victims are being treated for both, he said.

"This is probably one of the most gruesome crime scenes I've ever seen in my 34 years of law enforcement," Swanton



AP
A McLennan County deputy stands guard near a group of bikers in the parking lot of a Twin Peaks restaurant Sunday, May 17, 2015, in Waco, Texas.

said, later adding, "I was amazed that we didn't have innocent civilians killed or injured."

Dozens of motorcycles were parked in a nearby lot Sunday. Bodies were found in the park-

ing lot of Twin Peaks and in another adjacent lot for a family restaurant.

Will death make Tsarnaev a martyr? Experts say it depends

BOSTON (AP)—Does putting Boston Marathon bomber Dzhokhar Tsarnaev to death make him a martyr for the cause?

Some analysts worry that Tsarnaev's eventual execution could inspire more attacks. But others, including Islamic leaders, say no: Tsarnaev was more of a lone wolf with a low profile among radical jihadists and no known links to the Islamic State group, al-Qaida or other influential terror organizations.

It will take years, possibly decades, of appeals before Tsarnaev—sentenced Friday by a federal jury in Boston to death by lethal injection—is executed.

The martyrdom question surfaced during his trial for his role in the 2013 attack that killed three spectators and wounded more than 260 others near the

marathon finish line. Tsarnaev's defense had argued for life imprisonment as a better option because it offered "no martyrdom"; prosecutors insisted he had a chance to die as a martyr during a firefight with police trying to capture him but instead hid in a boat.

Yet the notes Tsarnaev scrawled inside that boat condemned U.S. actions in Muslim countries and asked Allah to make him a "shaheed," or martyr.

Matthew Levitt, a former FBI counterterrorism intelligence analyst and now a terrorism expert at The Washington Institute, said the death sentence will resonate differently around the world.

"Tsarnaev is a criminal and a terrorist responsible for one of the most reprehensible attacks in Boston's history," he said. "I do fear that the death penalty could cause some Islamic terrorist groups to paint him as a martyr."

Islamic leaders have sought to distance themselves from Tsarnaev. Two Boston-area mosques, including one where he and his radicalized older brother, Tamerlan, occasionally

prayed, issued a joint statement after Friday's sentencing verdict denouncing the bombings as atrocities.

"There will always be those few who glorify evil and make martyrs of those who perpetrate it; however, it is our sincere hope that all Bostonians, all Americans, indeed all of humanity, joins us in condemning the bombings and remains with us forever—Boston Strong," they said.

Ibrahim Hooper, a spokesman for the Council on American-Islamic Relations, which bills itself as the nation's largest Muslim civil rights and advocacy organization, isn't convinced the death sentence will make Tsarnaev a martyr.

"This case really hasn't been on the radar screens of extremist groups around the world," he said. "These were just loners."

Amtrak could pay no more than \$200M to crash victims

WASHINGTON (AP)—For the first time, Amtrak could face a \$200 million payout to train crash victims—the limit set by Congress. But that may be too low to cover the costs of the eight lives lost and more than 200 people injured in last week's derailment in Philadelphia.

That payout cap for a single passenger rail incident was part of a late effort in 1997 to pass a law that would rescue Amtrak from financial ruin and help it one day become independent.

Adjusted for inflation, which the law does not consider, that amount would be just under \$300 million now. And Amtrak is still far from independent.

An Associated Press review of past cases found that Amtrak never before has been liable for a \$200 million payout for a

single passenger rail incident. The Philadelphia crash could be the first time the liability ceiling—designed specifically for Amtrak—would actually apply to the railroad.

It's not known how high the costs of victims' deaths and injuries from Tuesday's crash will run.

The train, which left Washington headed to New York, was moving at more than twice the speed allowed on a curve when it derailed not long after it stopped at Philadelphia's 30th Street Station. Investigators haven't determined why the train was traveling so fast.

On Friday, an Amtrak employee filed the first lawsuit, asking for more than \$150,000 in damages. Amtrak employees are not limited by the \$200 mil-

lion cap because it only applies to passengers.

"I don't think Amtrak has ever faced a situation like this, and since they own the Northeast Corridor, they're 100 percent on the hook," said Frank Wilner, author of the book, "Amtrak: Past, Present, Future."

Using past passenger rail accidents as a guide, some lawyers expect damages from the crash to be similar to a 2008 accident in Los Angeles, which resulted in a \$200 million payout to victims. In that crash, the train's engineer was texting and didn't stop at a red signal when the train collided head-on with a freight train, killing 25 people and injuring more than 100.

The money was paid to victims by Metrolink, which pro-

vides commuter rail service in Southern California, and Veolia Environment, a French company that operated the rail service at the time.

A judge divided the \$200 million among the victims, with sums between \$12,000 and \$9 million. In some cases, lawyers said the amounts were far less than the projected costs of medical care needed as a result of the crash.

Paul Kiesel, a Los Angeles attorney who represented victims from the 2008 crash, said \$200 million "can be just a drop in a bucket to compensate people who are the victims of passenger rail collisions in America."

But Kiesel said he is not aware of another passenger rail incident in which the \$200 million cap has been a factor.

he described the management as uncooperative with authorities in addressing concerns.

"Apparently the management (of Twin Peaks) wanted them here and so we didn't have any say-so on whether they could be here or not," Swanton said.

At least 100 people were detained, Swanton said late Sunday night.

Swanton said at least five rival gangs gathered at Twin Peaks for a meeting that he said focused on turf and recruitment, two areas where the groups have often clashed. Preliminary findings indicate a dispute broke out in a bathroom, escalated to include knives and firearms and eventually spilled into the restaurant parking lot, he said. There were 150 to 200 gang members inside the restaurant at the time. Shots were fired inside and outside the restaurant, he said.

Swanton described the interior of the restaurant after a Sunday night walk-through, saying it was littered with bullet casings, knives, a club, bodies and pools of blood. Authorities would be working the rest of the night to process the reams of evidence, he said.

Men in motorcycle jackets could be seen being taken away in police vehicles. Others sat on the ground waiting to speak with police.

Police were aware of the meeting in advance, Swanton said, and at least 12 Waco officers in addition to state troopers were outside the restaurant, part of a national chain that features scantily clad waitresses, when the fight began.

"We've been made aware in the past few months of rival biker gangs ... being here and causing issues," Swanton said.

Officers shot armed bikers, Swanton said, adding that the actions of law enforcement prevented further deaths. It was not known if any of the nine dead were killed by police officers.

Swanton said that the restaurant's operators also were aware of the meeting in advance, and

ACROSS THE NATION

Theater shooting defense lawyers try to limit gore, emotion

CENTENNIAL, Colo. (AP)—Defense attorneys in the Colorado theater shooting trial are trying hard to keep jurors from knowing the worst details of the massacre, fighting to prevent survivors from revealing how badly they were injured and objecting to photos showing even small amounts of blood. Their persistent efforts frustrated the judge who this week told them, "The defendant has a constitutional right to a fair trial. The defendant doesn't have a constitutional right to a sanitized trial." James Holmes' defense attorneys want to keep the trial focused on whether he was legally insane, not the nightmare of the attack, concerned that the gory details could sway jurors. "This is a particularly difficult case for that sort of argument," said Denver defense attorney Scott Robinson, who is not involved in the Holmes case. "It's not humanly possible to separate gruesomeness from the theater shooting trial. With so many shots fired, so many people shot, so many lurid memories recounted by so many witnesses, the jury will be revolted. They've already hated what they've seen, and it's not even close to over."

Asia

Kerry slams North Korea, vows security for South

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry on Monday accused North Korea of a litany of crimes and atrocities while reassuring South Korea of America's "ironclad" security commitments.

Kerry blamed North Korea for continuing to break promises, make threats and "show flagrant disregard for international law" by continuing provocative nuclear and missile activity while oppressing its own people. He said North Korea's "horrific conduct" must be exposed and vowed to ratchet up pressure on Pyongyang to change its behavior, particularly since it has rebuffed repeated attempts to restart denuclearization negotiations.

"They have grown the threat of their program and have acted with a kind of reckless abandon," Kerry said, referring to North Korea and its leadership, less than a week after South Korea's spy agency said North Korean leader Kim Jong Un ordered his defense chief executed with an anti-aircraft gun for complaining about the young ruler, talking back to him and sleeping during a meeting Kim presided over.

That allegation, if true, adds to concerns about the erratic nature of Kim's rule, particularly after Pyongyang claimed last weekend it had successfully test-fired a newly developed ballistic missile from a submarine.

Kerry called the reported killing just the latest in a series of "grotesque, grisly, horrendous,

public displays of executions on a whim and fancy." He said that if such behavior continued, calls would grow in the international community for North Korea to be referred to the International Criminal Court.

South Korean Foreign Minister Yun Byung-se said "the severity of recent threats and provocations" made it essential to bolster the security relationship.

The actions come despite a recent U.S. diplomatic overture to North Korea to discuss resuming denuclearization talks that have been stalled for the past three years. The U.S. quietly proposed a meeting with North Korea in January, before the U.S. and South Korea began annual military exercises that North Korea regards as a provocation. The two sides, however, failed to agree on who could meet and where.

Kerry noted North Korea's refusal to return to the table, saying "all they are doing now is isolating themselves further and creating greater risks to the region and to their own country." He said the U.S. remained open to talks but only if "we have some indication from the leader of North Korea that they are serious about engaging on the subject of their nuclear program."

Kerry also expressed hope that the successful conclusion of a nuclear deal with Iran would send a positive message to North Korea to restart negotiations on its own atomic program. Kerry said he believed an Iran agreement could have



AP
South Korean President Park Geun-hye, left, and U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry meet at the Blue House in Seoul, South Korea Monday, May 18, 2015.

"a positive influence" on North Korea, because it would show that giving up nuclear weapons improves domestic economies and ends isolation.

"Perhaps that can serve as an example to North Korea about a better way to move, a better way to try and behave," he said.

International negotiators are

rushing to finalize a nuclear deal with Iran by the end of June under which Iran's program would be curbed to prevent it from developing

atomic weapons in exchange for the lifting of international sanctions that have crippled its economy.

Nuclear talks with North Korea, which has already developed atomic weapons despite previous attempts to forestall it, broke down three years ago as it has continued atomic tests and other belligerent behavior, including ballistic missile launches.

North Korea conducted its first nuclear test in 2006 and is now believed to have at least 10 such weapons despite some of the toughest international sanctions in existence. It conducted its third nuclear test in February 2013, and U.S.-based experts forecast that it could increase its nuclear arsenal to between 20 and 100 weapons by 2020.

In addition to talks on issues related to North Korea, Kerry in Seoul will be laying the groundwork for a visit to Washington in June of South Korean President Park Geun-hye.

Malaysia launches talks amid Asia's growing migrant crisis

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia (AP)—Malaysia launched high-level talks with its neighbors Sunday to try to solve the deepening problem of refugees stranded in boats off Southeast Asia's shores, but there appeared to be no quick solution to the crisis.

Malaysian Foreign Minister Anifah Aman met with his counterpart from Bangladesh, Abul Hassan Mahmood Ali, ahead of a meeting with the Indonesian and Thai foreign ministers scheduled for Wednesday, officials said.

But more than two weeks into a regional humanitarian crisis, the stance of Malaysia, Thai-

land and Indonesia remained unchanged—that none wants to take the migrants in, fearing that accepting a few would result in an unstoppable flow. Myanmar, from where many of the migrants have fled, appears unwilling to engage in talks.

"I have already stated that we cannot afford to accept more of them, as a huge number already exist here—and so far no countries want to settle them," Anifah was quoted as saying after Sunday's talks by the online edition of Malaysia's government-linked mass daily New Straits Times.

The Malaysian and Bangladeshi foreign ministers met in Sabah state on Borneo island

as part of a pre-planned annual consultation between the two countries, officials said.

"We have to look at our own interests too, our social problems and security problems—we have to take that into consideration," Anifah said.

"We are asking Myanmar to participate in finding a solution," he added.

Boatloads of more than 2,000 migrants—ethnic Rohingya Muslims fleeing persecution in Myanmar and Bangladeshis trying to escape poverty—have landed in Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand in recent weeks. Aid groups estimate that thousands more are stranded at sea

after a crackdown on human traffickers prompted captains and smugglers to abandon their human cargo.

Navy ships from Malaysia, Thailand and Indonesia have in recent days intercepted boats packed with desperate, hungry migrants, giving them food and water and sending them away—a move that sparked international outrage.

An increasingly alarmed United Nations has warned that pushing the boats away could create a crisis of "floating coffins" and urged regional leaders to put human lives first. The United States has urged governments not to push back new boat arrivals.

Suicide car bomb by Kabul airport kills 3, including Briton

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—A Taliban suicide car bomber attacked a convoy from the European Union police training mission Sunday near the Afghan capital's international airport, killing at least three people, including a Briton, authorities said.

The attack in Kabul comes amid a stepped-up Taliban campaign that saw its militants attack a guesthouse days earlier in Kabul, killing 14 people, including nine foreigners. The assaults show the challenges facing Afghan security forces, which have been in charge of

their country's war since NATO and U.S. troops ended their combat mission at the end of last year.

The car bomb exploded early Sunday morning near the office of the Afghan Civil Aviation Authority, a few hundred meters (yards) from the airport's main terminal, said Najib Danish, a deputy Interior Ministry spokesman. The blast damaged one foreign vehicle and two civilian vehicles, he said.

Sari Haukka-Konu, a spokeswoman for the EU's police mission, said one non-mission member traveling in a EUPOL

vehicle had been killed. The British Embassy in Kabul identified the dead Briton as a security contractor, without elaborating.

Britain's Foreign Secretary Phil Hammond called the attack cowardly.

"These attacks must not stop the people of Afghanistan, with the support of the international community, working towards a more peaceful future," he said in a statement.

Interior Ministry spokesman Sediq Sediqqi said the blast also killed two Afghans passing by and wounded 18 people, including three foreigners. Hauk-

ka-Konu said some of those wounded including EUPOL mission members.

Afghan President Ashraf Ghani also condemned the attack.

"The killing of innocent women and children shows the terrorists have been defeated on the battlefield and are looking for alternative means of killing innocent people," Ghani said.

A Taliban spokesman claimed responsibility for the attack in a statement emailed to journalists, saying the bomber targeted "a convoy of foreign invader forces."

ASIAN BRIEFS

Cambodia deports fugitive Russian tycoon

PHNOM PENH, Cambodia (AP)—Cambodia deported a fugitive Russian tycoon Sunday who was living illegally in the Southeast Asian country after he was accused of embezzling \$175 million in his homeland. Accompanied by Russian authorities, Sergei Polonsky was put on a flight to Moscow via Vietnam early Sunday morning, said immigration official Ouk Hey Sela. Polonsky was arrested Friday in the southern Cambodian coastal town of Sihanoukville, where authorities said he had been living for two years with an expired visa. The real estate tycoon was charged in Russia in June 2013 with embezzling more than 5.7 billion rubles (\$175 million) from 80 property investors. Cambodian police had first arrested him in November 2013 after he was added to Interpol's "red list" of top fugitives, but released him on bail a few months later based on a preliminary ruling against his extradition.

Catholic brother from US convicted of sex abuse in Australia

SYDNEY (AP)—A Catholic brother accused of sex abuse in the U.S. has been convicted in Australia of a string of decades-old child sex offenses. Bernard Hartman was accused of abusing four children in the 1970s and 1980s, when he worked as a teacher at St Paul's College, a secondary school in Melbourne. Hartman returned to Australia from the U.S. to face the charges at three separate trials. He pleaded guilty in Victoria state County Court to four counts of indecent assault against two girls. In a separate trial, he was convicted of one charge of indecent assault and two charges of common law assault against a man who had once been his student. Last week, he was found not guilty to a charge of indecent assault against another man.

World

Iraq official: 500 killed, 8,000 fled as Ramadi fell to IS

DOHUK, Iraq (AP)—A spokesman for the governor of Iraq's Anbar province said Monday that about 500 people—both civilians and Iraqi soldiers—are estimated to have been killed over the past few days as the city of Ramadi fell to the Islamic State group.

The estimates follow a shocking defeat as Islamic State seized control of the Anbar provincial capital on Sunday, sending Iraqi forces fleeing in a major loss despite the support of U.S.-led airstrikes targeting the extremists.

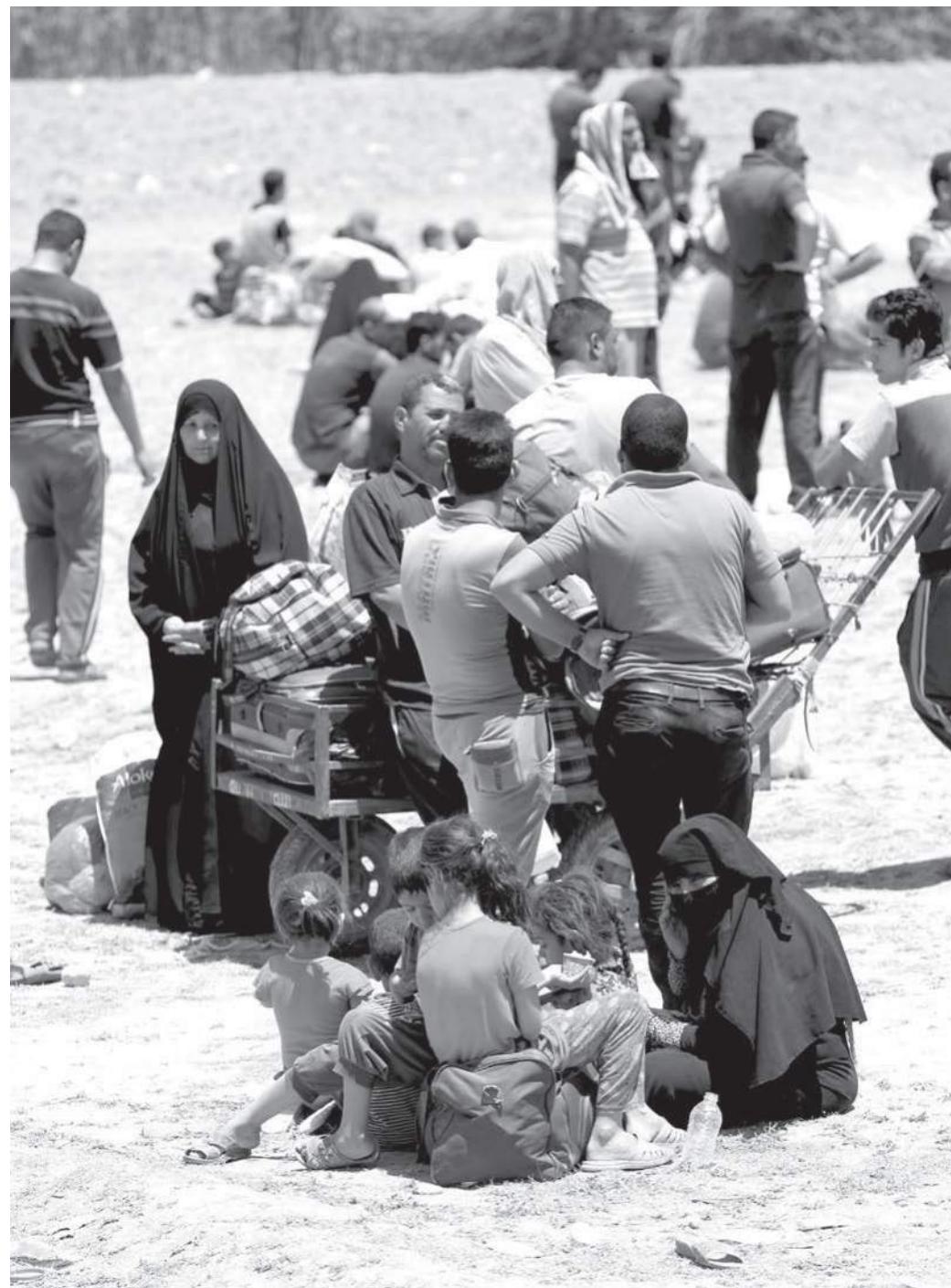
Bodies, some burned, littered the streets as local officials reported the militants carried out mass killings of Iraqi security forces and civilians. Online video showed Humvees, trucks and other equipment speeding out of Ramadi, with soldiers gripping onto their sides.

"We do not have an accurate count yet," said the spokesman, Muhammed Haimour. "We estimate that 500 people have been killed, both civilians and military, and approximately 8,000 have fled the city."

The estimates are for the past three days, since Friday, when the battle for the city reached its final stages. The 8,000 figure is in addition to the enormous exodus in April, Haimour said, when the U.N. said as many as 114,000 residents fled from Ramadi and surrounding villages at the height of the violence.

Local officials have said that IS carried out mass killings of Iraqi security forces and civilians.

With defeat looming, Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi had ordered security forces not to abandon their posts across Anbar province, apparently fearing the extremists could capture the entire desert region that saw intense fighting after the 2003



In this Saturday, May 16, 2015 photo, Iraqis fleeing from their hometown of Ramadi rest near the Bzeib bridge, 65 kilometers (40 miles) west of Baghdad.

military base near Ramadi, apparently to participate in a possible counter-offensive, said the head of the Anbar provincial council, Sabah Karhout.

U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry said he remained confident about the fight against the Islamic State group, despite the

Frustration with Latin America's left on the rise

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)—Venezuela's socialist government is struggling to put food on the shelves amid runaway inflation. Brazil's president is facing calls for impeachment. And even Cuba's communist government, an iconic touchstone for generations of leftists, is embracing closer ties with the U.S.

Whether it's because of corruption scandals or stagnant growth, the popularity of the crop of leftist Latin American governments that have been running the region since the start of the millennium appears to be waning. Voters that embraced what became known as the pink tide that swept away the pro-Washington, free-market policies dominant in the 1990s are increasingly tuning hostile against the populist firebrands they once rallied behind.

Across the region, polling numbers are tanking and street protests are on the rise.

Triggering the growing disenchantment are some serious economic headwinds. Most leaders came into power just as China's economy was soaring and with it demand for South

America's abundant natural resources. Now that the world's second-largest economy is cooling, the commodities boom that allowed governments to spread the wealth and endear themselves to the poor is ending.

"It's not easy to govern in Latin America right now," said Raul L. Madrid, co-editor of a 2010 book on leftist governments in the region. "Many of these governments rode frustration with high levels of inequality and corruption to power. But you can't rail against the establishment as effectively as you once did when you are the establishment at this point."

No leader has been harder hit than Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro. When the late Hugo Chavez took power in 1999, the price of oil—which funds the bulk of spending in the oil-rich nation—was under \$10 a barrel. After hovering at over \$100 for several years, prices have plunged by nearly half since July, exacerbating shortages and the world's fastest inflation as the government tight-fists dollars needed to pay down debt and import basic goods.

WORLD BRIEFS

Ukraine says 2 Russian officers captured near rebel area

KIEV, Ukraine (AP)—The Ukrainian government on Sunday claimed to have captured two Russian officers who were operating in the rebel-controlled area. Ukrainian military spokesman Andriy Lysenko said on Sunday the two Russian officers have been taken prisoner by the volunteer Aidar battalion in the town of Shchastia, not far from the front line. He would not provide further details and said investigators were questioning the men. Aidar said on its Facebook page that the two officers were wounded and taken captive in a skirmish in the area early on Sunday. A year-long conflict between Russia-backed separatists and government troops in eastern Ukraine has killed more than 6,100 people. Russia has repeatedly denied that it was supplying the separatists with rebels or recruits despite the mounting evidence testifying to the contrary.

Burundi president makes first appearance since failed coup

BUJUMBURA, Burundi (AP)—Burundi President Pierre Nkurunziza made his first appearance in the capital since an attempted coup against his government last week. Nkurunziza made a brief statement to journalists in the foyer of his heavily guarded presidential offices in Bujumbura Sunday morning. He did not mention the failed coup plot or protests that have rocked Burundi for weeks over his bid for a third term in office, decried by opponents as unconstitutional. At least 15 people

have been killed in the unrest. Instead he described how he contacted the presidents of nearby African countries to discuss the threat from Somalia's Islamic extremists, al-Shabab. Burundi, Kenya and Uganda contribute troops to the African Union force in Somalia that is fighting al-Shabab. The extremist rebels have retaliated by carrying out violent attacks in Kenya and Uganda.

Pope canonizes 2 saints from 19th-century Palestine

VATICAN CITY (AP)—Pope Francis canonized two nuns from what was 19th-century Palestine on Sunday in hope of encouraging Christians across the Middle East who are facing a wave of persecution from Islamic extremists. Sisters Mariam Bawardi and Marie Alphonsine Ghattas were among four nuns who were made saints Sunday at a Mass in a sun-soaked St. Peter's Square. Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas and an estimated 2,000 pilgrims from the region, some waving Palestinian flags, were on hand for the canonization of the first saints from the Holy Land since the early years of Christianity. Church officials are holding up Bawardi and Ghattas as a sign of hope and encouragement for Christians across the Mideast at a time when violent persecution and discrimination have driven many Christians from the region of Christ's birth. They were canonized alongside two other nuns, Saints Jeanne Emilie de Villeneuve from France and Maria Cristina of the Immaculate Conception from Italy.

Officials: Saudi-led coalition airstrikes resume in Yemen

SANA, Yemen (AP)—Saudi-led coalition airstrikes targeting Shiite rebels resumed early Monday in the southern port city of Aden after a five-day truce came to a close following talks on the war-torn country's future that were boycotted by the rebels.

Coalition airstrikes hit rebel positions and tanks in several neighborhoods of Aden after the cease-fire expired at 11 p.m. on Sunday, Yemeni security officials said, speaking on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to speak to the media.

The cease-fire hadn't halted all fighting in Yemen between the Shiite rebels, known as Houthis, and government forces loyal to exiled President Abed Rabbo Mansour Hadi.

Earlier Sunday, hundreds of Yemeni politicians and tribal leaders gathered in Saudi Ara-

bia for three days of talks on Yemen's future, but the Houthis refused to participate.

The Shiite rebels reject the main aim of the talks—the restoration of Hadi, who fled the country in March in the face of rebel advances—and the location of the negotiations in Saudi Arabia, which is leading an air campaign against the Houthis and their allies.

The absence of the Houthis means the national dialogue is unlikely to end the violence.

The U.N. envoy to Yemen, Ismail Ould Cheikh Ahmed, opened the meeting in Riyadh by calling on all parties to ensure that the shaky cease-fire leads to a lasting truce.

"I call on all parties to refrain from any action that disturbs the peace of airports, main areas and the infrastructure of transport," said Ahmed, speaking on

Focus

By JOCELYN GECKER
ASSOCIATED PRESS

BANGKOK (AP) — The waters off some of Southeast Asia's most pristine beaches are the focal point of a regional humanitarian crisis. Yet nobody is rushing to solve it.

More than 1,600 migrants and refugees have landed on the shores of Malaysia and Indonesia in the past week and thousands more are believed to have been abandoned at sea, floating on boats with little or no food after traffickers literally jumped ship fearing a crackdown.

These aren't just any migrants; they are the pariahs of Asia. Many are Rohingya Muslims fleeing persecution in Myanmar along with some Bangladeshis.

By some estimates there are still 6,000 out at sea, but no country appears willing to take them in.

A look at the role of nations in Southeast Asia and elsewhere:

MYANMAR

The crisis stems from Myanmar's decades-long persecution of its 1.3 million Rohingya, a Muslim minority who are denied citizenship by law, meaning they are effectively stateless. Rohingya have endured violence at the hands of the military and extremist Buddhists, who in the last three years chased tens of thousands of people from their homes in the western state of Rakhine.

The Rohingya have limited access to education and medical care. They cannot move around or practice their religion freely. The government refuses to recognize them, even by name, saying they are illegal migrants from neighboring Bangladesh even though many of their families arrived generations ago.

The Rohingya have been fleeing Myanmar by boat for years, but threats of deportations and lingering questions about citizenship have sparked one of the biggest exodus the region has seen. Since mid-2012, an estimated 100,000 Rohingya have fled aboard ships, according to the U.N. refugee agency. Even two Muslim-majority countries willing to quietly accept them in the past are now pushing them away.

THAILAND

Thailand has been at the center of Southeast Asia's human trafficking industry for years. Syndicates have used the country as a transit stop to offload migrants at hidden jungle camps before moving them onto third countries, including neighboring Malaysia. The industry thrived thanks to corrupt officials who turned a blind eye for pay.

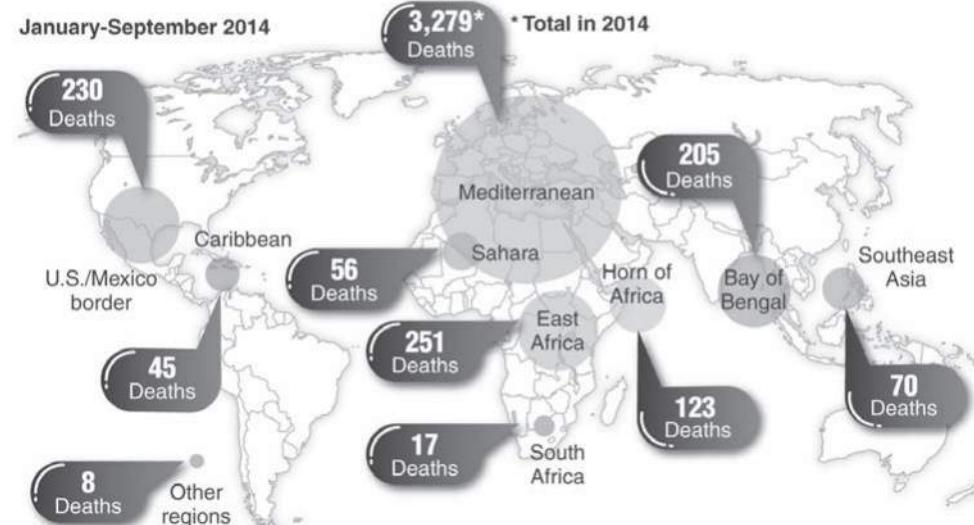
How Southeast Asia created its own humanitarian crisis



In this Friday, May 15, 2015, newly arrived migrants gather at Kuala Langsa Port in Langsa, Aceh province, Indonesia. More than 2,000 Rohingya refugees have landed on the shores of Indonesia's Aceh province, as well as in neighboring Malaysia.

Migrant deaths around the world

With the recent sinking of a migrant boat killing at least 800 in the Mediterranean this week, the number of migrant deaths in the Mediterranean is already at 1,776 for 2015. Here is a look at last year's migrant deaths around the world.



until the end of May.

INDONESIA

Boats with nearly 600 Rohingya and Bangladeshis washed ashore on Sunday in Aceh, in western Indonesia, and those on board were given medical care and shelter. But a day later, the Indonesian navy stopped another boat from entering the country's waters. It turned back the boat, crammed with hundreds of hungry migrants, say-

ing it gave the passengers food, water and directions to Malaysia—their original destination.

In the past, Indonesia has been fairly welcoming to Rohingya who have reached the country, many of them by accident after their boats failed to land in Malaysia. Many Indonesians in the mostly Muslim country have sympathized with their plight, staging protests to condemn Rohingya persecution in Myanmar. The former president

let any foreign boats come in," Tan Kok Kwee, first admiral of Malaysia's maritime enforcement agency, said Tuesday. In a policy that appears to echo Indonesia's, he said that boats deemed seaworthy would be given provisions and sent away.

If the boat is sinking, they would rescue it, he said.

Although the Rohingya are Muslims, the overwhelmingly Muslim countries of Indonesia and Malaysia appear to be

putting their national interests ahead of religious solidarity with actions that send the message—it is not in their interest to welcome this potentially massive wave of boat people.

Malaysia is host to more than 150,000 refugees and asylum seekers, mostly from Myanmar. More than 45,000 of them are Rohingya, according to the U.N. refugee agency.

ASEAN

Leaders of the 10-member Association of Southeast Asian Nations meet twice a year with the aim of increasing cooperation and improving the lives of their citizens but critics say the group's biggest flaw is that it never tackles contentious issues. ASEAN's bedrock principle is not interfering in each other's internal affairs - a loophole that critics say helps member states commit abuses without consequence. When Myanmar held the group's rotating chairmanship in 2014 it blocked any discussion of the Rohingya issue, and did so again when ASEAN leaders met last month in Langkawi, which is ironically the location where some of the ships washed ashore this week.

UNITED NATIONS

The U.N. refugee agency, UNHCR, said Thursday it is "extremely alarmed" at reports that Indonesia and Malaysia are pushing boats back to sea. Volker Turk, the agency's assistant high commissioner for protection, said that "instead of competing to avoid responsibility" the governments of Southeast Asia should approach the crisis as an urgent matter of regional concern. The UNHCR has urged countries to prioritize saving lives and then figure out government policy. The agency itself has no mandate to carry out its own rescue mission but is working with governments and agencies "to channel information to the right people who can do something about it," said Vivian Tan, a spokeswoman in Bangkok.

and foreign minister also openly pushed the Myanmar government to stop discriminating against the Rohingya.

MALAYSIA

More than 1,000 migrants came ashore on Malaysia's Langkawi Island in recent days, but the country has bluntly said it will turn away any more of the crowded vessels unless they are sinking.

"We won't let any foreign boats come in," Tan Kok Kwee, first admiral of Malaysia's maritime enforcement agency, said Tuesday. In a policy that appears to echo Indonesia's, he said that boats deemed seaworthy would be given provisions and sent away.

If the boat is sinking, they would rescue it, he said.

Although the Rohingya are Muslims, the overwhelmingly Muslim countries of Indonesia and Malaysia appear to be

last June, the U.S. blacklisted Thailand and Malaysia for failing to meet minimum requirements in fighting human trafficking. It downgraded the two countries to the lowest level—"tier 3"—in the annual U.S. rankings of governments' anti-trafficking efforts. Its new report is due out this June.

Overdrive

By G. CHAMBERS WILLIAMS III
FORT WORTH STAR-TELEGRAM

Crossovers are the new family station wagons, and among the top entries in the growing list of great midsize models is the Honda Pilot, a three-row, eight-passenger model that exemplifies Honda's expertise in producing a family-friendly vehicle that is just as good around town as it is on long trips.

A redesigned Pilot is on the way for 2016, but for 2015, the vehicle is offered in 14 trim levels—LX, SE, EX, EX-L, and Touring—with several additional variations, depending on what extras are added. The EX-L and Touring models come with leather interiors—that's what the "L" stands for. Four-wheel drive is available at all levels.

The 2015 prices range from \$29,870 (plus \$830 freight) for the base LX two-wheel drive to \$41,620 for the top-of-the-line Touring four-wheel drive with navigation and rear entertainment.

There's an uplevel cousin of the Pilot in the Acura stable, called the MDX, which is a bit more elegant and has more standard amenities. But the Pilot isn't far behind in comfort and convenience, and is less-expensive—the MDX for 2015 runs from about \$43,000-\$57,000; the redesigned 2016 versions are about the same.

All 2015 Pilot models come with a 3.5-liter V-6 engine, rated at 250 horsepower and 253 foot-pounds of torque, connected to a five-speed automatic transmission. It's a smooth, powerful drivetrain that moves the vehicle effortlessly.

But the five-speed gearbox will be replaced with a pair of new transmissions for 2016—a six-speed or, in the higher trim levels, a nine-speed automatic for 2016. There also will be a new 3.5-liter V-6 engine, as well.

2015 Pilot is family-friendly crossover with lots of amenities



MCT
The 2015 Honda Pilot is good around town and on long trips.

With the 2015 models, the Environmental Protection Agency ratings are 18 mpg city/25 with front-wheel drive, and 17/24 with four-wheel drive. The V-6 engine does have variable cylinder management, which shuts off up to three of the cylinders during highway cruising to save fuel.

Standard on all 2015 Pilots are remote keyless entry, rear-view camera and an integrated Class III trailer hitch.

During our test, we had four people on board, with their luggage, for a weekend trip that included some mountain driving. The Pilot handled the hills with ease, as well as the uphill free-

way ramps.

The cabin of the Pilot is fairly quiet at highway speeds, although there is a bit of wind noise. Still, we had no trouble communicating with the twin teenagers in the back seat—no shouting was necessary.

Pilot's ride is comfortable, yet its suspension is strong enough to hold the vehicle steady on curves. Steering is crisp and responsive. Because it's a crossover, it has the handling characteristics of a sedan rather than a truck-like attributes of the traditional sport utility vehicle.

Storage areas abound in the cabin of the Pilot. These are

great for keeping personal items such as cellphones secure and within easy reach, and other valuables tucked away out of sight when the vehicle is parked in public places, such as state and national parks where car break-ins are common.

There are three 12-volt power outlets are within reach of the driver and front passenger, along with a 110-volt outlet for a game console or a laptop, for example.

Besides two cupholders in the center console between the two front seats, there are trays in front and behind them, as well as three more trays on top of the glove box. Everyone has at least

NUTS & BOLTS

2015 Honda Pilot

- Overall length: 191.4 inches.
- Curb weight range: 4,299-4,608 pounds.
- Engine: 3.5-liter V-6.
- Transmission: Five-speed automatic.
- Power/torque: 250 horsepower/253 foot-pounds.
- Brakes, front/rear: Disc/disc, anti-lock.
- Cargo volume: 20.8 cubic feet (behind third row, including hidden well); 47.7
- cubic feet (third seat folded); 87 cubic feet (middle and third seats folded).
- Towing capacity: 4,500 pounds.
- Electronic stability control: Standard.
- Side air bags: Front seat-mounted; roof-mounted side-curtain, all three rows.
- EPA fuel economy: 18 mpg city/25 highway (2WD); 17/24 (4WD).
- Fuel capacity/type: 21 gallons/unleaded regular.

one usable cupholder, and some have more than one.

Other standard features include front and rear air conditioning with air filtration, tilt and telescopic steering column, cruise control, power windows/mirrors/door locks, AM/FM/compact-disc audio system with seven speakers (including subwoofer) and the Radio Data System, trip computer, digital compass, automatic headlights, and heat-rejecting tinted glass.

EX models add tri-zone automatic climate control with humidity control and air filtration, a 10-way power driver's seat with lumbar support, a six-disc in-dash CD changer, security system, XM radio, body-color side mirrors and door handles, alloy wheels, roof rails, fog lights, exterior temperature indicator, and a universal garage opener.

The EX-L adds leather seating surfaces, heated front seats, a four-way power front passenger seat, a one-touch power moon roof, acoustic windshield glass, and an automatic-dimming rearview mirror.

High-end models also have corner and backup sensors, exclusive alloy wheels, power tailgate, and outside-mirror integrated turn signals.

Standard safety features include Honda's Advanced Compatibility Engineering body structure, which, among other things, makes it match the bumper heights of most other vehicles on the road.

Among other safety gear are electronic stability control; three-row, side-curtain air bags with rollover sensors; driver and front-passenger seat-mounted side air bags; active front head restraints; and antilock brakes with electronic brake distribution and brake assist.

The Pilot has been designated a Top Safety Pick by the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety, and the vehicle received the best-possible (five-star) ratings in front- and side-crash safety tests conducted by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

Towing capacity is 4,500 pounds.

UNDER THE HOOD

Can insurers really snoop on my driving habits?

By Brad Bergholdt
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

Q: I've seen information on TV about how insurance companies can supposedly track how a car is driven. How much information is available about my car and personal choices to someone who is capable of snooping?—Melissa W.

A: This is a large concern for many people. I'm familiar with what is possible to obtain from a vehicle's data link connector but don't have the resources to be sure of the extent to which it may be collected and used, beyond the examples below.

The onboard diagnostics data link connector beneath the instrument panel of vehicles made in 1996 and on, an OBD-II, can provide two types of information: federally mandated generic diagnostic information

and manufacturer-specific, all-vehicle information. Easily acquired data includes a couple of dozen powertrain parameters such as vehicle speed/rate of change, engine rpm, throttle position/rate of change, and brake switch status. Recording and transmitting this data with a plug-in device can provide a general indication of how a vehicle was/is being driven.

Esurance's voluntarily installed DriveSense is one example, allowing a possible rate discount for gentle driving behavior. Not seen/available are yaw (turning), vehicle location/route, following distance, seat belt usage, seat position/occupancy, entertainment and communication choices, and other rather intrusive data. These fall under the manufacturer-specific and/or supplemental restraint system (airbag) event

data categories. All OBD-II vehicles can record a freeze frame (snapshot) of the data occurring at the instant of an emissions failure that results in an illuminated check engine light. This is useful to a technician as it allows the best chance to duplicate the fault so it can be diagnosed and the repair validated. Some vehicles go further by recording a more comprehensive before/during/after movie of conditions which can include engine/emissions-related, manufacturer-specific data.

Recent vehicles also record and store crash data, which provides a vivid picture, via dozens of sensors, of what was happening prior to an airbag deployment, and some less-severe incidents. This information can help make future cars

safer and perhaps mitigate lawsuit damages. A 2014 Chevy Silverado, for example, can record and playback well over 100 printed pages of crash data after an incident.

As long as you don't crash or voluntarily attach a telematics device to your vehicle, your privacy seems safe for now. Manufacturer-specific information could provide the more intrusive information listed above, but since this data is less-standardized in format, we're hopefully a while away from big brother and big business accessing our Bluetooth activity, cabin conversations and radio station choices.

Brad Bergholdt is an automotive technology instructor at Evergreen Valley College in San Jose, Calif. Readers may send him email at under-the-hood(at)earthlink.net; he cannot make personal replies.

Life & Style

Taylor Swift wins 8 at Billboard Awards; Kanye gets booed

AS VEGAS (AP)—Taylor Swift dominated the Billboard Music Awards with eight wins, including top artist, while Kanye West was booed during his performance that closed the three-hour event.

Swift also won top Billboard 200 album for "1989" and top female artist Sunday night.

"Oh, this is such a good night!" she said after winning the top prize, besting One Direction, Ariana Grande, Sam Smith and Katy Perry. "Early this morning I watched my brother Austin graduate from Notre Dame ... (and) to anyone who's graduating this year ... this is for you."

"This is kind of a graduation for us," Swift said to the audience of top musicians.

West, however, was booed during his smoky performance of "All Day" and "Black Skinhead."

"And now a doctor," Kylie Jenner said while introducing the rapper, who earned an honorary doctorate from the Art Institute of Chicago last week.

Swift owned the night with wins for top Hot 100 artist and the fan-voted artist achievement award.

Swift kissed her rumored boyfriend Calvin Harris on the cheek and gave him a hug at the MGM Grand Garden Arena in Las Vegas. Swift, who sat next to the DJ-producer-singer, kicked off the awards by debuting her action-filled music video for "Bad Blood," which stars Selena Gomez and Lena Dun-

ham and showcases Swift as a fighting vixen.

The video opened with Swift and Gomez fighting men in an office and then fighting each other. It ended with Swift's and Gomez's armies going head to head. Other stars in the clip included Mariska Hargitay, Ellen Pompeo, Jessica Alba and Ellie Goulding, and Hayley Williams of Paramore.

Swift swapped her first two verses with new ones from rapper Kendrick Lamar for "Bad Blood," a song rumored to be about Swift's friendship with Perry.

"I am so excited I got to show the world," Swift told the audience.

One Direction, which recently downsized to four members, won the night's first award for top duo/group. They also won top touring artist.

"There is one more person to share this with, and that's our brother Zayn," Liam Payne said of Zayn Malik, who left the boy band.

Iggy Azalea won top rap song for "Fancy" as her NBA player boyfriend, Nick Young, watched her with emotion. Azalea also won top streaming artist and rap artist.

Like Azalea, Smith and Pharrell also won three awards—the most after Swift.

Smith, who recently had vocal surgery, didn't attend the show. He wrote his thank you speech on cue cards, which aired via video when he won top male artist.



Taylor Swift poses in the press room with the awards for top Billboard 200 album for "1989", top female artist, chart achievement, top artist, top Billboard 200 artist, top hot 100 artist, top digital song artist, and top streaming song (video) for "Shake It Off" at the Billboard Music Awards at the MGM Grand Garden Arena on Sunday, May 17, 2015, in Las Vegas. AP

Van Halen was the night's first performance and rocked the crowd with its 1984 hit "Panama." Mariah Carey sang her first hit, "Vision of Love," which was pitchy. She followed it with new single, "Infinity," where she also struggled. She ended with a strong high note, though.

Britney Spears was energetic when she performed her new single, "Pretty Girls," in a sheer black cat suit alongside Azalea. Swift and Zendaya sang along as Nicki Minaj mainly danced,

barely singing or rapping live and relying on a backing track during "Hey Mama" and "The Night Is Still Young."

The Simple Minds performed "Don't You (Forget About Me)" from "The Breakfast Club,"

which is celebrating 30 years. Molly Ringwald introduced the band and stood next to Swift in the audience while they performed, and the women seemed to exchange numbers.

Megan Trainor performed a

duet with John Legend and won hot 100 song for "All About That Bass." She was teary and shaky onstage, as was her friend and collaborator Charlie Puth, who performed "See You Again" with Wiz Khalifa earlier in the show.

Other performers included Pitbull with Chris Brown and Little Big Town with Faith Hill.

Hosts Ludacris and Chrissy Teigen offered some jokes Sunday night: The rapper described why he's a good host, name-checking his music and acting credits. Teigen, a model, replied, "And I bang a musician" as her husband, John Legend, stood up.

Legend later won top radio song for his No. 1 hit, "All of Me."

"I have to thank, of course, my beautiful co-host, my lovely wife, Chrissy Teigen," he said. "I am so proud that we won this award together tonight."

Legend also won top streaming digital song (audio); other double winners included Trainor, Jason Aldean, Hozier and Enrique Iglesias.

Ludacris offered some words about the late B.B. King and his renowned career while the camera panned to a guitar on an empty stage.

Mariah Carey has bronchitis, cancels night of Las Vegas show

LAS VEGAS (AP)—Three shows into her Las Vegas residency, Mariah Carey says bronchitis caused her to cancel a Wednesday night show at The Colosseum at Caesars Palace.

A representative for Carey confirmed Thursday that a doctor diagnosed the pop icon with bronchitis. Chris Chambers

with the Chamber Group says the singer famous for hitting high notes will be back on stage Saturday and Sunday and will still perform Sunday at the Billboard Music Awards.

Chambers didn't say if Carey's canceled performance would be rescheduled.

Carey is the latest to join

The Colosseum's roster after debuting "Mariah #1 to Infinity" May 6, which catalogues her 18 No. 1 singles in chronological order.

Carey was scheduled to perform 18 shows in May and July on Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays before this week's cancellation.



Message of Appreciation

We, the family of the late

Marina Jose Datuin

Lovingly known as "Marie"

Wish to express a sincere and heartfelt "Thank You" to all our families, relatives, and friends. Your thoughtfulness and support in expressing your sympathy, condolences and prayers have greatly helped us to endure the grief and sorrow of our loss.

Your kindness and love will be cherished and remembered.

Thank You

Alexander and Anne Marie Navarrete
and Family

JOINT DEATH ANNIVERSARY In Loving Memory of



**†Maria Reyes
Demapan**
5th Year Anniversary

We, the family, humbly invite all our relatives and friends to join us in prayers as we commemorate the passing of our dearly beloved **†Maria Reyes Demapan & †Raymond Reyes Demapan** unto eternal life.

Mass of intentions is being offered nightly at 6:00 pm, San Vicente Church, beginning May 19th to May 27th.

Please join us in prayers.

Thank You yan Si Yu's Ma'ase ginan I Asaguana as Ramon DLG.
Demapan/Isabel Aguon Cruz I Famaguonia, yan I Familia.

Ad it up: A splendid drama, 'Mad Men,' comes to an end

NEW YORK (AP)—"Mad Men" creator Matthew Weiner promised a finale that was "dramatic and appropriate."

He delivered. This incomparable drama set in the 1960s New York advertising world concluded its seven-season run Sunday night on AMC with a resolution that rang true to its spirit and likely left its devotees satisfied, even as they bade it farewell with regret.

Spoiler alert: Read no further if you don't want to know what happened.

"A lot has happened," Don Draper (series star Jon Hamm) tells Stephanie, a damaged young woman from his past, after his wayward odyssey from New York finally brings him to her doorstep in Los Angeles.

Mainly, he is distraught after hearing from his daughter Sally, back in New York, that her mother, his ex, is dying of lung cancer.

He phoned Betty (January Jones), declaring that he would take their three kids after she passed. She turned him down. She intends for them to live with her brother and his wife.

"Please don't let your pride interfere with my wishes," she said coolly. "I want to keep things as normal as possible. And your not being here is part of that."

Stephanie, too, is a woman in need. But she, too, turns down Don's offer to help.

"Mad Men" traced Draper's journey through the 1960s in his identity as a successful, charismatic but tormented ad man. The series' end brought that phase of his life to a close. And it seemed that after a lifetime of running and shifting



AP

This image released by AMC shows, from left, John Slattery as Roger Sterling, Jon Hamm as Don Draper, Vincent Kartheiser as Pete Campbell, Christina Hendricks as Joan Harris and Kevin Rahm as Ted Chaough, in a scene from the final season of "Mad Men."

identities, he had truly dealt himself out of any meaningful relationships.

Meanwhile, Pete (Vincent Kartheiser) and his estranged wife reunited, moving to a new life and his terrific new job in Wichita, Kansas, of all places.

Roger (John Slattery) is making a third try at marriage—tying the knot with Don's second ex-wife's mother, Marie.

Joan (Christina Hendricks) finds she can't have it all. Her new man, Richard, a wealthy retiree who adores her, won't accept her decision to start a promising new venture: a film

production studio. He wants her all to himself. For the second and presumably last time, he walks out. Joan remains her own woman.

Peggy (Elisabeth Moss) is settling in at her new workplace, the giant McCann-Erickson ad agency, where she and Stan (Jay R. Ferguson), her art-director colleague with whom she has worked and bickered for years, finally realize what every viewer has long suspected: They're in love.

And what of Don?

Deserted by Stephanie at a spiritual retreat, he hits rock

bottom. Then, in a last-ditch encounter session, another man's testimony of emptiness and self-loathing strikes a nerve in him. The man begins to weep. Don hugs him. They both weep. Through the run of "Mad Men," Don has never been closer to anyone or tapped into such feelings in himself.

"The new day brings new hope," says a leader of a meditation group on a cliff above the ocean the next morning. "New day. New ideas. A new you."

Don, in a lotus position and his eyes shut, looks at peace as he is last glimpsed by viewers.

Is this the beginning of a new Don that can bring him happiness? Ommmm.

And then there's a coda: In a nod to the series' advertising world, to the real-life agency McCann-Erickson where several of the characters have been hired this season, and to its real-life client, Coca-Cola, "Mad Men" concluded with the classic 1971 peace-and-love Coke commercial where a hillside

collection of young people from all over the world, each holding a bottle of Coke, sang the jingle, "I'd Like to Buy the World a Coke." The jingle carried the reminder that Coke, of course, is "The Real Thing."

From its start to Sunday's finale 92 episodes later, "Mad Men" was a series that, as much as any series ever, helped TV grow up. It remained the real thing.

Extreme athlete Dean Potter dies in US jumping accident

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Extreme athlete Dean Potter, renowned for his bold and sometimes rogue climbs and BASE jumps, was one of two men killed while attempting a wingsuit flight in Yosemite National Park, a park spokesman said Sunday.

Someone called for help late Saturday after losing contact with Potter, 43, and his climbing partner, Graham Hunt, 29. They had jumped from a 7,500-foot (2,300-meter) promontory called Taft Point, park ranger Scott Gediman said.

He said a search-and-rescue team looked for the men overnight but couldn't find them. On Sunday morning, a helicopter crew spotted their bodies in Yosemite Valley.

No parachutes had been deployed.

BASE jumping is an acronym for fixed objects in which someone can parachute from: building, antenna, span, and Earth (such as a cliff). The sport is illegal in all national parks, and it was possible the men jumped at dusk or at night to avoid being caught by park rangers.

Potter and Hunt, who lived near Yosemite, were prominent

figures in the park's climbing community, Gediman said.

"This is a horrible incident, and our deepest sympathies go out to their friends and family," Gediman said. "This is a huge loss for all of us."

Potter was famous for pushing the boundaries of climbing by going up some of the world's most daunting big walls and cliffs alone, using his bare hands and without ropes. He took the sport to an extreme level with highlining—walking across a rope suspended between towering rock formations while wearing a parachute for safety in the event of a fall.

He drew criticism in May 2006 after he made a "free solo" climb of Utah's Delicate Arch in Arches National Park. Though the climb was not illegal, outdoor clothing company Patagonia dropped its sponsorship of him, saying his actions "compromised access to wild places and generated an inordinate amount of negativity in the climbing community and beyond."

Potter defended his ascent, saying his intention was to inspire people to "get out of their cars and experience the wild with all their senses."

'Pitch Perfect 2' leaves 'Mad Max: Fury Road' in the dust



This photo released by Universal Pictures shows, Anna Kendrick as Beca, in a scene from the film, "Pitch Perfect 2."

to Universal.

Carpou attributed some of the massive success to savvy positioning and the widespread appeal of the popular music and the charismatic, diverse cast. He noted that ads during the NBA playoffs and a Super Bowl spot helped to grow the film's audience base.

George Miller's critically acclaimed "Mad Max: Fury Road" landed a distant second in its debut weekend with a sol-

id and expected \$44.4 million from 3,702 locations. The high-octane, post-apocalyptic film cost a reported \$150 million to make and stars Charlize Theron and Tom Hardy.

Although it cost significantly more than "Pitch Perfect 2" to produce and didn't come close to matching its opening, "Mad Max: Fury Road" still had a promising and successful first weekend in theaters—especially considering the fact that

1. **"Pitch Perfect 2,"** \$70.3 million (\$26.9 million international).
2. **"Mad Max: Fury Road,"** \$44.4 million (\$65 million international).
3. **"Avengers: Age of Ultron,"** \$38.8 million (\$185 million international).
4. **"Hot Pursuit,"** \$5.8 million.
5. **"Furious 7,"** \$3.6 million (\$6.6 million international).
6. **"Paul Blart: Mall Cop 2,"** \$3.6 million (\$1.7 million international).
7. **"The Age of Adaline,"** \$3.2 million (\$1.5 million international).
8. **"Home,"** \$2.7 million (\$4.5 million international).
9. **"Ex Machina,"** \$2.1 million (\$300,000 international).
10. **"Far from the Madding Crowd,"** \$1.3 million (\$828,000 international).

it is R-rated.

Holdovers "Avengers: Age of Ultron," "Hot Pursuit" and "Furious 7" claimed the rest of the spots in the top five.

Prince Harry: Army kept me out of trouble

LONDON (AP)—Britain's Prince Harry has thanked the army for keeping him out of trouble and has called for national service to be brought back.

In an interview published in the Sunday Times, the 30-year-old prince also revealed that he's content being single and reflected on how the army gave him a chance to "escape the limelight."

"Definitely, without a doubt, it does keep you out of trouble," he said. "I dread to think where I'd be without the army."

Harry, who is completing a decade-long military career, voiced support for national service as he spoke of the transformative effects on men he knew in the army. He even encouraged his nephew and niece, George and two-week-old Charlotte, to be involved in the military one day.

"It's done no harm, just good, for me and I know it's the same for William," he said, referring to his older brother.

Cannes swoons for 'Carol,' Todd Haynes' '50s lesbian romance

CANNES, France (AP)—"Carol," Todd Haynes' 1950s lesbian romance with Cate Blanchett and Rooney Mara, had the Cannes Film Festival swooning after its premiere.

The long-in-development adaptation of Patricia Highsmith's novel was received rapturously at Cannes for its tale of an illicit love between two women in conservative '50s New York. Speaking to reporters Sunday, Blanchett said "Carol" is more than a period piece.

"We're living in deeply conservative times," said Blanchett, noting that in many countries, homosexuality is still illegal. "And if we think otherwise, then we're very foolish."

"Carol," based on Highsmith's 1952 novel "The Price of Salt," was one of the most anticipated films at Cannes and emerged a likely contender for the Palme d'Or and, later in the year, the Academy Awards. The

The prince said he hoped William and Kate's children would learn to cope with the pressures of growing up in the royal family.

Harry, who attracted hordes of enthusiastic female fans during his recent trips to New Zealand and Australia, also said he's "very happy not having a girlfriend."

Harry was speaking at the end of his weeklong visit to New Zealand. Prior to that he spent a month with the Australian army. The royal now plans to spend the summer working with animal conservation groups in Africa, which he said has been a long-held dream for him.

The royal, who is fifth in line to the throne, also commented on this week's publication of his father Prince Charles' private letters to senior government officials. Britain's government released about two dozen of the letters Wednesday after fighting for years to keep them private.

Weinstein Co. will release it Dec. 18 in the U.S.

The eroticism of "Carol" comes largely through subtle, hidden gestures, but Blanchett and Mara were asked about shooting the film's tasteful sex scene. Blanchett, a mother of four, said being naked hasn't been as much an issue for her since giving birth with "a lot of strangers."

"It's an important scene," she said.

Mara added: "I'm nude quite often so it wasn't a big deal for me."

Blanchett also added her voice to the growing chorus over sexism in Hollywood.

"It's important to keep talking about it," said Blanchett. "It fell off the agenda and I think we lost a lot of ground."

The screenwriter Phyllis Nagy didn't contradict her, but added a note of optimism.

"Nothing has changed and everything has changed," Nagy said. "We can have this movie now."

Rock star defends cop who helped him use police helicopter

LAS VEGAS (AP)—A Guns N' Roses guitarist said a former Las Vegas police captain who helped him use the department's helicopter for an elaborate wedding proposal did nothing wrong and he's glad he won his job back.

Daren Jay "DJ" Ashba hailed Friday's decision by a Nevada state board ordering the Las Vegas police department to reinstate David O'Leary to his job.

"When you know you're innocent for almost two years, it couldn't be a better day," Ashba told KLAS-TV of Las Vegas (<http://bit.ly/1e9nFJI>). "He loses his job because he did something out of the kindness of his heart. He did nothing wrong."

We did nothing wrong."

O'Leary had been criticized for helping arrange a police helicopter ride for his friend so the rocker could propose to then-girlfriend Nathalia Henao in 2013.

Ashba said he asked O'Leary where he could find a private helicopter to use for his wedding proposal and was instead offered a ride in the police helicopter.

The board's ruling said O'Leary had asked a fellow officer for advice, on behalf of Ashba, for booking a private helicopter ride to the Grand Canyon and was told none were available. Instead, O'Leary was told the department could offer

a fly-along in the helicopter, according to the ruling, which also said the participants signed the department's necessary paperwork to take the ride.

A picture of the couple posted on Instagram about a free ride on the police helicopter stirred controversy.

"I felt horrible because it's supposed to be an amazing moment for us and somebody lost a job ... They made it seem like we, you know, jumped a fence at midnight and stole a helicopter," Ashba said.

The police department has said it plans to appeal the ruling by the Local Government Employee-Management Relations Board.

O'Leary declined comment. But his attorney, Adam Levine, praised the decision.

"I hope that their threats to appeal were just a statement made in the spur of the moment and that they will welcome him back," Levine said.

The state board also said the department's decision to demote O'Leary was politically motivated because of the negative attention the helicopter ride attracted at the same time the department was trying to lobby for a sales-tax increase to pay for additional officers.

O'Leary had been with the department for nearly 25 years and led its financial crimes division.

Bruno Mars shines at Rock In Rio USA festival in Las Vegas

LAS VEGAS (AP)—Bruno Mars closed the Rock In Rio USA festival with an electrifying and upbeat performance that ended with his latest hit, "Uptown Funk!"

Mars was energetic as usual Saturday night in Las Vegas, kicking off his set on the drums. He went on to perform the likable "Locked Out of Heaven" as fireworks burst from the stage.

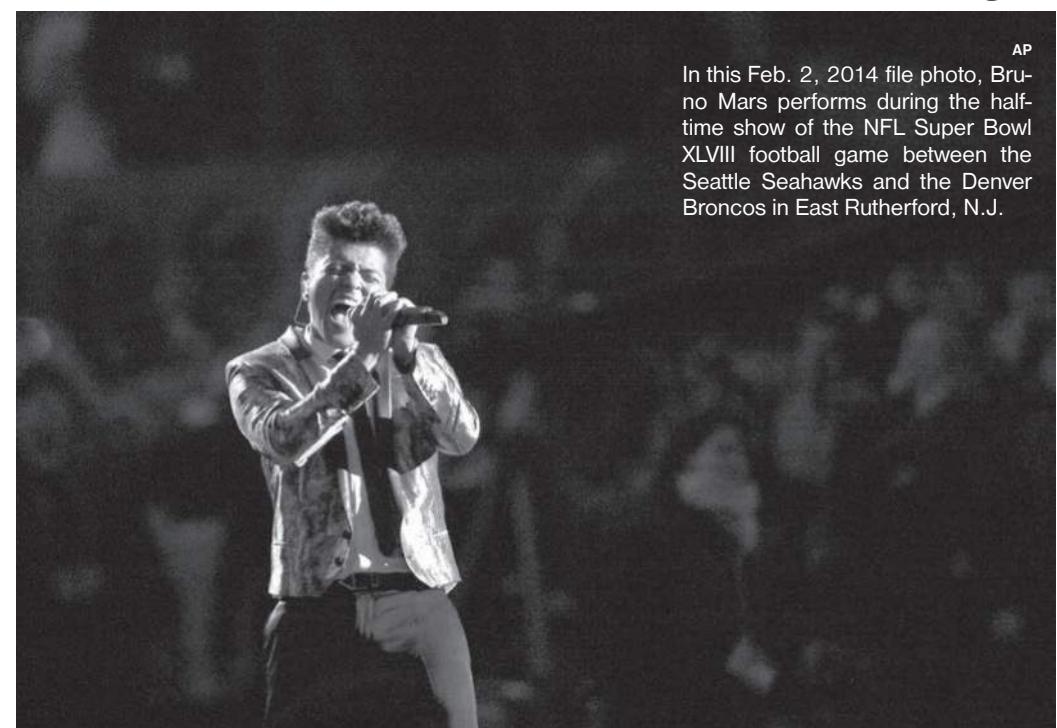
Mars, who has performed since he was a child and headlined the Super Bowl halftime in 2014, ran through his hits, including "Treasure," "Wish I Was Your Man" and "Just the Way You Are."

"Who's gambling?" Mars asked the Vegas crowd. "Who's gambling?"

The audience packed near the front of the stage, but others danced throughout the Rock In Rio site to Mars' songs—some as couples, others alone with drinks in their hands.

Mars also performed hits by others during his two-hour set, including R. Kelly's "Ignition," which made the crowd roar.

John Legend, Empire of the Sun and Big Sean also performed at the festival Saturday.



AP
In this Feb. 2, 2014 file photo, Bruno Mars performs during the half-time show of the NFL Super Bowl XLVIII football game between the Seattle Seahawks and the Denver Broncos in East Rutherford, N.J.

day. The event, in its second week, featured Taylor Swift

and Ed Sheeran on Friday.

The festival made its U.S.

debut last week with Metallica and No Doubt, among others.

festival's biggest purchase.

Ford will write, direct and produce the film, which is based on Austin Wright's novel "Tony and Susan." Focus chief executive Peter Schlessel called it a "romantic tale of revenge and regret." It's about an art gallery owner haunted by her ex-husband's novel.

Production on "Nocturnal Animals" is planned to begin this fall.

Focus acquires new Tom Ford film

CANNES, France (AP)—Tom Ford's second film has been acquired by Focus Features in the biggest sale yet at Cannes.

Focus announced Sunday that it has acquired the worldwide rights to Ford's upcoming thriller "Nocturnal Animals," with Amy Adams and Jake Gyllenhaal to

star. The film marks the second film for the fashion designer following the 2009 drama "Single Man," with Colin Firth.

After Ford pitched the film to buyers during the festival, it became one of the hottest properties on the market. It sold for about \$20 million, making it easily the

Husband's caring ministry doesn't extend to his wife

DEAR ABBY: I have been married to the same man for 20 years. He likes having people around ALL the time, and because he is a minister, we often can't avoid it. I have tried to accommodate his friends and hangers-on, but lately it's becoming unbearable. He will say "yes" to people who have been evicted, and I find myself sharing living quarters with perfect strangers or church members without prior notice.

I have tried over the years to make sense of his attitude toward me

(also toward those he's offered help). I feel he cares for others and

what they think of him more than what I feel or think. When I com-

plain about his latest live-in's attitude—or anything—he brushes

every issue aside and basically tells me to be a good Christian.

Right now, we have a family of three sharing our three-room

house with us and our three boys. I'm thinking of leaving him

when the youngest one is 13. I don't want to hurt my kids. How

can I explain to them that their "nice" dad is unreasonable and ir-

responsible with money, and I can't bear it anymore?

REACHED MY LIMIT IN NIGERIA

JANE DOE IN SOUTH CAROLINA

DEAR JANE: If you would like to know his reasons for

not accepting your proposal, the person you must ask is

him. While you feel ready to make a lifetime commit-

ment, your boyfriend apparently hasn't reached that

stage of life.

I know you're disappointed, but life doesn't always go the way we predict it will. (Sometimes it turns out even better!) So please don't try to change yourself to accommodate someone who is emotionally unavailable. You could twist yourself into a pretzel, but it wouldn't work because you aren't the problem. Accept it and move on.

Good advice for everyone—teens to seniors—is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



Rockets bounce back to advance to conference finals



HOUSTON (AP)—Down 3-1 in the series and on the brink of elimination, the Houston Rockets reeled off three straight wins to complete an improbable comeback over the Los Angeles Clippers and return to the Western Conference finals for the first time since 1997.

Now they'll face a team in Golden State that swept the regular-season series 4-0. Game 1 is Tuesday night in Oakland.

"I don't think we all came together just to get to the Western Conference finals," Dwight Howard said. "All of us are in pursuit of that ring. We're happy, but none of us are satisfied. We just have that focus about us, and we want to win. It's not going to be easy, and we don't want it to be. We want to fight for it—for what we think is ours."

James Harden scored 31 points, Howard had 16 points and 15 rebounds and the Rockets never trailed in a 113-100 victory over the Clippers on Sunday to punch their ticket to the conference finals.

It's the ninth time in NBA history that a team has overcome a 3-1 series deficit to win a playoff series.

The Rockets overcame a 19-point third-quarter deficit in Game 6 on Thursday night to stay alive. No such heroics were needed Sunday when they were up by 17 after three and Howard opened the fourth quarter with a 3-point play to push it to 88-68.

"That last unit of Game 6 did an amazing job of putting us back in the series even though

we were down," Harden said. "I felt like it was my job to come out for Game 7 and be the leader that I've been all year."

Blake Griffin scored five points in a 9-0 run to cut the lead to eight points with less than 2 1/2 minutes remaining. Harden made a pair of free throws after that, but a dunk by DeAndre Jordan got the Clippers within eight again. This time, Trevor Ariza hit a 3 from the corner to secure the victory.

Coach Kevin McHale, who won three titles in a Hall of Fame career with the Boston Celtics, said he'd take a minute to celebrate before worrying about the Warriors.

"They're a very good team," McHale said. "We have got to play our style of basketball. (Sunday) I'll enjoy this one. (Monday) we have to start prepping for that one. We've got to play how we play and just take it to them every, single possession."

Ariza finished with 22 points and made six 3-pointers.

Every fan in the arena was given a red shirt emblazoned with the words "Clutch City" in yellow letters, bringing back the moniker of the 1994 and '95 teams that won back-to-back titles. These Rockets lived up to the nickname, winning their third game in a row to become the first team to win a playoff series after trailing 3-1 since the Phoenix Suns did it in 2006 against the Lakers.

The scrappy Rockets, who were the No. 2 seed in the Western Conference, have embraced their sudden underdog role.

They adopted an us-against-the-world mentality as most everyone counted them out when



they were one game away from their season ending.

"The togetherness and everything we brought to do this, to make this possible, just shows so much heart of this team and just the belief that we never gave up," Terrence Jones said. "It just carried us."

Their big deficit in this series was far from the first adversity they've faced this season. Harden finished second in MVP voting to Golden State's Steph Curry with a brilliant regular season that kept the team afloat when Howard was injured.

Howard sat out half of Houston's games in the regular season before returning to form to help propel the Rockets to a place they haven't been since their glory days in the 1990s when they won their only two titles.

Howard has averaged 13.8 rebounds in the postseason to lead the NBA and his 17.2 points are second on the team behind Harden's 26.7. He has also been a leader on defense, piling up 30 blocks in the first 12 games of the playoffs.

He has spoken often about how difficult it was to miss more games than he ever had after being relatively healthy for most of his career. Howard worried if he'd be the player he once was when he returned and is thrilled that he's helped the team move one step closer to a championship.

"It means the world," Howard said. "I just want to make sure I do whatever I can or we do whatever we can to not let this moment slip away. I think we were destined for this moment."

Houston Rockets guard James Harden points skyward as he comes off the court at the end of Game 7 of the NBA Western Conference basketball semifinals against the Los Angeles Clippers, Sunday, May 17, 2015, in Houston.

Potential spoilers taking on American Pharoah in Belmont

NEW YORK (AP)—Dortmund won't be around for this one, but a familiar cast of 3-year-olds are lining up as potential spoilers when American Pharoah attempts to win the Belmont Stakes and give thoroughbred racing its first Triple Crown winner in 37 years.

Dortmund is the Kentucky Derby and Preakness winner's stablemate. Both are trained by Bob Baffert. Dortmund, third in the Derby, was given a strong chance to turn the tables in the Preakness—and upend his own trainer's Triple try. He finished fourth, though, and was headed home to California for a break.

American Pharoah is Belmont-bound after splashing his way to a seven-length victory in the Preakness on Saturday. He's heading to Churchill Downs on Monday, then off to Belmont Park in New York on June 3—three days before the 1 1/2-mile Belmont.

There is no shortage of challengers, including three from trainer Todd Pletcher.

"I understand," Baffert said. "It just shows the respect they have for American Pharoah. It's something you can't con-



Hall of Fame trainer Bob Baffert rubs the face of American Pharoah as the Preakness-winning colt gets a bath outside the stakes barn Sunday, May 17, 2015, at Pimlico Race Course in Baltimore.

trol. You have to earn it, just like he earned it in the weather yesterday. I've seen a lot of great horses leave here and (lose) in the Belmont - Smarty Jones, Big Brown, Real Quiet, Silver Charm, Funny Cide. I'll Have Another (in 2012). You

just don't know."

Here's a look at some possible spoilers:

MATERIALITY

One of Pletcher's probables, the Florida Derby winner may have had the toughest

A two-time Belmont winner (Rags to Riches, 2007; Palace Malice, 2013), Pletcher likely relishes the chance to play spoiler, especially on his home track. Held out of the Preakness, the son of 2005 Preakness and Belmont winner Afleet Alex worked 4 furlongs in 49.03 at Belmont on Saturday. "With the downpour and everything (at the Preakness), I was happy we were safely at home and got a good work into him," Pletcher said.

FROSTED

Not the most dynamic note listed on his Derby chart, but the gray colt still finished fourth despite several issues, including being taken five wide around the far turn under jockey Joel Rosario. Trained by New York-based Kiaran McLaughlin, the Wood Memorial winner has been a project, but his best racing may be ahead of him. He skipped the Preakness and should be fresh for the Belmont. When he's good—Wood Memorial—he's really good. When he's not—fourth in the Fountain of Youth—he's really not. His latest workout was Friday at Belmont, 4 furlongs in 47.64 seconds—the fastest of 31 at the distance.

CARPE DIEM

Tenth in the Derby as the third betting choice at 7-1, Carpe Diem simply faded in the final quarter-mile and was 11 lengths behind American Pharoah. He's probably a much better horse than that, and Pletcher wisely kept him out of the Preakness. A son of Giant's Causeway, the colt comes into the Belmont with four wins in six lifetime starts, including the Tampa Bay Derby and Blue Grass Stakes. Not a bad resume.

FRAMMENTO

Never count out Nick Zito. The Hall of Fame trainer hasn't had too many top horses the past few years, but he's spoiled a Triple or two. In 2004, it was his 36-1 long shot Birdstone who ran down Smarty Jones in the final 70 yards of the Belmont, and in 2008 it was his 38-1 shot Da' Tara who won after Big Brown was pulled up around the far turn. However, Frammento barely made it into the Derby field, finished 11th and would come into the Belmont with only a maiden win in eight lifetime starts. He will be a long shot for sure, but that's when a Zito-trained horse becomes a threat.

McIlroy's 'boring' finish good enough to win at Wells Fargo

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP)—Rory McIlroy had one word to his play on the back nine Sunday at the Wells Fargo Championship.

"Boring," the world's top-ranked golfer said with a laugh.

That's sort of what it has come to when McIlroy is playing it at the top of his game. Few in the world can challenge him when he's driving the ball and putting the way he is right now.

On Sunday, he



became the first two-time winner at the Wells Fargo Championship with an impressive seven-shot victory over Webb Simpson and Patrick Rodgers. It was his second win in the last three weeks.

McIlroy closed with a 3-under 69 to finish at 21-under 267, shattering the tournament record by five strokes. That came after he fired a course-record 61 on Saturday to take a commanding four-stroke lead.

McIlroy said it was "boring" on the back nine compared to his win here in 2010, when he carded 3s on the last six holes to finish 15 under.

He played the last half-dozen holes in 1-under on Sunday and the outcome was never in question. McIlroy had set himself up to win with his big round Saturday when he made a run at 59.

So McIlroy didn't need to be outstanding because there was nobody was chasing him.

As he said, he just had to get to the finish line.

"It was a more controlled run," McIlroy said. "I feel like I'm a more controlled player these days. I've learned how to finish things off."

McIlroy also won Match Play Championship two weeks ago in San Francisco and has 11 PGA Tour titles. He has six top-10 finishes in his last eight PGA Tour starts.

Phil Mickelson called McIlroy's performance this week

"impressive."

"Everything is firing on all cylinders for me," McIlroy said.

Rodgers, playing on a sponsor exemption, was the only player to mount any type of a challenge, getting within three shots after a birdie at No. 15. But there was too much ground to make up, and he played the final two holes in 3-over and finished with a 68. Simpson shot a 72.

McIlroy almost didn't play at Quail Hollow this week, but decided he needed to play more because he needed the FedEx Cup points after the Masters.

The win moved him into third place in the standings.

McIlroy got off to a shaky start with a three-putt bogey on No. 2—his first in 167 holes—but quickly pulled it together. He didn't have another bogey until the 17th hole, when he had built a seven-stroke lead and the outcome was already decided.

Simpson failed to capitalize on McIlroy's early mistake, shooting 37 on the front nine



Rory McIlroy, of Northern Ireland, raises the trophy after winning the Wells Fargo Championship golf tournament at Quail Hollow Club in Charlotte, N.C., Sunday, May 17, 2015.

that included a double bogey on the par-3 sixth when he three-putted from 8 feet. That dropped the Charlotte resident six shots

back and he was never in contention again.

"He's our best player right now and I wish more than any-

thing I could have shot a couple under on the front to make it more exciting," Simpson said. "Just didn't have it today."

McIlroy reached 20 under on No. 12 when he knocked his approach shot from 132 yards to 2 feet of the cup for a tap-in birdie and it looked as if he might coast the rest of the way.

But Rodgers, who earned his first top-25 finish on the PGA Tour, made it interesting when he played a seven-hole stretch in 6-under par, sparked by an eagle on the par-5 10th hole. But McIlroy didn't flinch when Rodgers drained a 15-foot putt on No. 15 to pull within three shots of the lead.

Instead, McIlroy countered by rolling in a birdie putt on his own on No. 14, moving to 21 under and regaining a four-shot cushion.

McIlroy then put an exclamation point on the win by drilling his approach shot from 145 yards to 3 feet on No. 16 for his tournament-record 27th birdie.

"I had a goal to go out there and birdie the par 5s and the two drivable par 4s and I knew if I made six birdies there was pretty much no chance that anybody could catch me," McIlroy said. "With my length and the way I'm driving it, it's a big advantage around here and it showed this week."

It also helped having a big lead.

"You can pick and choose where you want to be aggressive," McIlroy said.

Mickelson finished in a three-way tie for fourth place at 12 under with Gary Woodland and Robert Streb. Geoff Ogilvy and Justin Thomas finished 11 under.

Braves' Miller flirt with no-hitter and beats Marlins, 6-0



M I A M I
(AP)—Shelby Miller's no-hit bid ended with two outs in the ninth inning Sunday when Justin Bour singled sharply up the middle, as the Atlanta Braves right-hander pitched a two-hitter in a 6-0 win over the Miami Marlins that completed a three-game sweep.

Miller (5-1) retired the first two batters in the ninth before Bour singled on the first pitch, a 95-mph fastball. Dee Gordon then reached on an infield single before Martin Prado popped out, ending the game.

Two hits weren't enough to satisfy Marlins owner Jeffrey Loria, who fired manager Mike Redmond shortly after the game. The Marlins are off to a 16-22 start after a busy off-season.

Redmond's replacement will be announced Monday, the Marlins said. Bench coach Rob Leary was also fired.

Royals 6, Yankees 0

In Kansas City, Missouri, Edinson Volquez (3-3) allowed just three hits over for seven innings, and Salvador Perez homered and drove in two runs as Kansas City won for the second time in the three-game series.

Chris Capuano (0-1) made his

season debut after rehabbing a quadriceps strain sustained in spring training. The veteran left-hander gave up four runs, four hits and two walks, and left New York in a big hole when he was pulled four batters into the third inning.

Orioles 3, Angels 0

In Baltimore, Mike Wright (1-0) allowed four hits, struck out six and walked none in 7 1-3 innings in his major league debut. Brad Brach struck out the last two batters in the eighth, and Zach Britton worked the ninth for his eighth save.

Adam Jones scored on a wild pitch in the fourth inning and added a two-run double in the eighth to help Baltimore stop the Angels' five-game winning streak.

Phillies 6, Diamondbacks 0

In Philadelphia, Sean O'Sullivan (1-2) allowed five hits in six innings for his first win in four years. He had been 0-9 with a 7.19 ERA in 13 starts and five relief appearances since winning at Yankee Stadium for Kansas City on May 12, 2011.

O'Sullivan was hit on the throat by a throw from his own catcher, Cameron Rupp, in the

sixth and retired Aaron Hill on a flyout with his next and final pitch of the day.

Pirates 3, Cubs 0

In Chicago, A.J. Burnett (3-1) worked around five walks while allowing three hits in seven innings as Pittsburgh stopped a four-game losing streak.

Jake Arrieta (4-4) gave up one run and five hits in seven innings, losing for the first time in five career decisions against the Pirates.

Dodgers 1, Rockies 0

In Los Angeles, Mike Bolsinger (2-0) pitched three-hit ball for six innings, striking out six. Kenley Jansen, who returned from the disabled list Friday after left foot surgery in February, pitched a perfect ninth for the save.

Yasmani Grandal had an RBI single in the fourth off Kyle Kendrick (1-5) as the Dodgers salvaged a split. Each team had three hits.

Giants 9, Reds 8

In Cincinnati, Brandon Belt homered for the third time in three games, Nori Aoki drove in three runs and Hunter Pence homered in his second game back from a broken forearm.

The World Series champi-

ons, who built a 6-1 lead, won three straight games in Cincinnati for the first time since 2005 and at 20-18 moved two games over .500 for the first time since

Mets 5, Brewers 1

In New York, Noah Syndergaard (1-1) earned his first major league win, allowing one run and three hits in six innings.

He hit Carlos Gomez on his helmet's left earflap with a 96 mph fastball in the sixth. Gomez said he did not sustain a concussion and hoped to play Monday night at Detroit.

Cardinals 2, Tigers 1

In St. Louis, Kolten Wong hit a tiebreaking home run in the sixth inning and Lance Lynn got his fifth career RBI to back his dominant pitching as St. Louis avoided a three-game sweep.

Miguel Cabrera's RBI double in the first was the only damage against Lynn (3-3), who gave a weary bullpen a break before walking the last two batters he faced at the end of his 7 1-3 innings. Seth Maness' only pitch got a double-play ball to end the eighth and Trevor Rosenthal finished for his 13th save.

Astros 4, Blue Jays 2

In Houston, Collin McHugh

(5-1) struck out nine in seven innings, allowing two runs and six hits as Houston won its fifth straight. He is 14-7 with a 2.80 ERA in his last 27 starts dating to last May 27.

Luis Valbuena and Colby Rasmus homered, and Luke Gregerson pitched the ninth for his 10th save.

Rays 11, Twins 3

In Minneapolis, Evan Longoria drove in three runs and had two of Tampa Bay's season-high 18 hits.

Chris Archer (4-4) allowed one run and four hits in six innings, and Kyle Gibson (3-3) gave up three runs and eight hits in five innings.

Rangers 5, Indians 1

In Arlington, Texas, Mitch Moreland had a two-run homer after an earlier hit off the top of the wall as Texas avoided a three-game sweep.

After Moreland lined a double off the top of the right-field wall in the second that produced the first Texas run, his drive estimated at 407 feet in the sixth just cleared the wall in center and made it 4-1.

Nationals 10, Padres 5

In San Diego, Stephen Strasburg (3-4) rebounded from a rough

start to beat his hometown Padres for the fourth straight time, allowing three runs and five hits in five-plus innings.

Bryce Harper and Danny Espinosa hit three-run homers, with Harper raising his league-leading, home-run total to 14, as Washington won for the 15th time in 19 games.

Mariners 5, Red Sox 0

In Seattle, James Paxton (2-2) allowed five hits in eight innings, stretching his scoreless streak to a career-best 20 innings, and Carson Smith pitched a perfect ninth.

Brad Miller homered for the third time in two games, and Kyle Seager added a two-run drive in the eighth.

White Sox 7, Athletics 3

In Oakland, California, Avisal Garcia hit a two-run homer, Alexei Ramirez had two hits and two RBIs, and Jeff Samardzija (3-2) allowed three runs in eight innings as Chicago swept a series in Oakland for the first time in 18 years.

Jose Abreu and Gordon Beckham also drove in runs for the White Sox, who won their sixth straight for their longest winning streak in two years and reached .500 for the first time this season.



NMIFA president Jerry Tan, left, turns over the CNMI flag to captain Lyka Sally of the CNMI U14 Girls National Team during the send-off ceremony for the squad last Saturday at the Kanoa Resort.

CNMI opens bid in AFC event vs China

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

AFC
The Future is Asia
The CNMI U14 Girls National Team will play its first game in the AFC U14 Girls Regional Championships (East) 2015 today when it takes on host China.

The CNMI-China tussle is set for 5pm (7pm Saipan time) at Pitch 6 of the National Football Training Centre in Beijing. Also scheduled in the opening day of the tournament is the 2pm duel

between Hong Kong and North Korea at Pitch 5.

The Commonwealth squad will be suiting up for its first match after having only one day to practice since arriving in Beijing last Sunday. The CNMI bets will be colliding against one of the favored teams in their group and are expected to work doubly hard to neutralize China's attackers.

"It will not be an easy opening game. For sure our girls will be very busy on defense," team manager Angie Ito said during a send-off ceremony for the

CNMI delegation last Saturday at the lobby of Kanoa Resort.

"China along with North Korea are the top teams in our group and are in the same level with Japan in Group A so we have to be in our best defensive form to at least limit their goals to single digit," Ito added.

Northern Mariana Islands Football Association technical director Kiyoshi Sekiguchi, who is also part of the Commonwealth's delegation, added that playing against high-level teams like China is good for the CNMI's youth players.

"They will have a hard time against China and other top teams, but they can use these games to observe and learn techniques from their opponents. This tournament is also good for our new players as they will experience what it is like to play in an AFC event and the experience will help them play better the next time they compete," Sekiguchi said.

The CNMI brought 18 players to Beijing for the six-day competition. The list includes Katherine Magat, Toremy Diaz, Katrina Costales, Anela Duenas, Samantha Manacop, Jasmin Phan, An-

gelica, Leisha, and Lyka Sally, Erica Santiago, Jobelle Tabuena, Kyla Tuazon, Angelina Villagomez, Grace Choi, Jerlyn Castillo, Francesca Bucalig, Guinevere Borja, and Princess Alcantara.

After its game against China, the Commonwealth's youth players will duel North Korea tomorrow and challenge Hong Kong this Thursday. The Top 2 finishers in Group B after the round-robin contest will advance to the semis against the first two placers in Group A, which has Guam, South Korea, Chinese-Taipei, and Japan.

22 Tsunami Saipan swimmers to join Guam tourney

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Tsunami
Tsunami Swimming Center Saipan is sending 22 members to the 2015 Guam Championships Swim Meet that will be held later this month at the Hagatna Swimming Pool.

Team captain Takumi Sugie will lead the club's campaign in the May 29 and 30 tournament. Joining him for the two-day competition are siblings Kaito and Ryuto Yanai, Aika and Nanaka Watanabe, Mark Maestro, Nelson Batallones, Jun Tenorio, Kenta Tomie, Anthony Camacho-Deleon Guerrero, Arman Rechucher, Isaiah Alekseenko, Hans Xu, Angel De Jesus, Kyona Rivera, Miku



Takumi Sugie will lead Tsunami Saipan's bid in the 2015 Guam Championships Swim Meet later this month.

Tammy, Rei Sekiguchi, Sophia Gauran, Natsuki Nagata, Asaka Litulumar, Ayumi Obligacion, and Ashley Dangol. These Tsunami Saipan swimmers earned tickets to the Guam meet after posting BB times in previous

local races.

Tsunami Saipan head coach Hiro Kimura said they have yet to determine how many events each swimmer will be competing in and will make the decision as the tournament nears.

"We have yet to finalize their events, but for sure they will swim in races where they are very good."

For example, Kaito Yanai will swim in the 50m, 100m, and 200m breaststroke events, while Takumi will do 50m, 100m, and 200m freestyle," Kimura said.

The head coach added Tsunami Saipan swimmers are aiming to get high-point awards (first to third place) in each age group and hold its ground against the favored club in the tournament—Tsunami Guam.

Last year, Tsunami Saipan brought home nine high-point awards with Gauran, Nanaka Watanabe, and Angel Marie Tan placing first in the girls 9 to 10, U8, and 15 to 16 age groups, respectively. Dangol, Camacho-Deleon Guerrero, and Aika

Watanabe bagged runner-up honors, while Xu, Tenorio, and Kensuke Kimura took the third place high-point awards.

Meanwhile, Hiro Kimura said Sugie, De Jesus, and Kaito Yanai will use the Guam tournament to prepare for the 2015 FINA World Championships, which will be held in Kazan, Russia from July 24 to Aug. 9.

"At the Guam champs, their target is to update their personal best times. They are training hard and we're pushing them to have good results in time for the FINA World Champs," Kimura said.

Joining the Tsunami Saipan head coach in assisting the club's swimmers in Guam are team manager Yuko Kimura and chaperons Hiroko Tenorio and Helen Xu. The squad will leave Saipan for Guam on May 29.

card entries and will have their opening games in the Grade 5 event today.

Today's matches will be played at the Pacific Islands Club and Kanoa Resort courts. Yesterday, qualifying games

took place at the American Memorial Park tennis courts due to the wet courts at PIC. Matches were also delayed with the first one starting past 11am instead of 8:30am because of the intermittent rain yesterday morning.

MHS now waits for the winner of today's other semis pairing between Mt. Carmel School and Kagman High School for its finals opponent on Friday. The loser will face Saipan Southern in the battle for third on Thursday.

Masters baseball team meeting set for today



The CNMI Masters baseball team that is being formed continues to make its plans for the upcoming Guam tournament later this month, as they will again hold a meeting today at 5:30pm at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium pavilion inside the Oleai Sports Complex.

Saipan Baseball League coordinator Tony Rogolifoi is at the forefront of organizing the team and looking for sponsors for the Guam trip.

The Guam Masters Baseball Tournament, which is open to players Over-40, is set from May 29 to June 5 at the Dededo Complex.

Five teams, led by defending champion Guahan, have already confirmed their participation in the upcoming nine-day tournament.

Adahi, Net Tour, Padres, and an Australian team are the other competing squads.

The team is busy with their fundraising activities where they also sent out solicitation letters to potential sponsors.

For more information, call Rogolifoi at 234 6672. (Jon Perez)

LEINA

From Page 28

Kim, according to the CSU-Pueblo website, was the first player under the Lady ThunderWolves' golf program that was named to the All-American selection.

The CSU-Pueblo junior is also a three-time Rocky Mountain Conference Player of the Year that earned her an RMAC first-team All-Conference selection.

She topped five of the nine tournaments in RMAC's Fall and Spring seasons, where she also placed second, third twice, and 10th.

Her impressive performance in the RMAC earned her a spot in the NCAA Division II Women's Golf West Super Regional Tournament at the Foxtail Golf Club in Rohnert Park, California early this month.

Kim, in the regionals, needed to sink a birdie in the sudden death playoff against Sydney Williams of Dallas Baptist in order to clinch the final berth in the national finals.

She then tallied an 18-over 306 in the nationals at the Meadows Golf Course in Allendale, Michigan to improve her 28th place finish two years ago.

Kim, before the Division II Championship, holds the best scoring average per round at 72.47 per round and is ranked 24th overall in scoring average among all collegiate golfers in the NCAA Division I, II, and III, NAIA, and NJCAA.

The WGCA, formed in 1983, represents over 500 women's collegiate golf coaches in the entire U.S. where they encourage and promote female collegiate golfers.

7 SURVIVE

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Lee will be joined in the main draw by fellow Commonwealth players Mikayla Lopez, Negahr Rastguyi, Tammy Ackerman,

Ami Tsukagoshi, Julia Ishikawa, Isabel Heras, and Mimi Sakano. Completing the CNMI roster are wild card entries Tania Tan and Maliwa Miyawaki, while players from Singapore, U.S., Hong Kong, Palau, and

Laniyo on her fifth pitch.

She threw two quick strikes against Borja but lost the Saipan Southern pitcher when she tossed four consecutive balls to put a Lady Mantas runner on base. Ursula Lizama then struck out Nipi

Dela Cruz then only needed three pitches against Danielle Mafnas as the SSHS left fielder struck out swinging.

Dela Cruz also went 3-for-4 with a double and made three runs, while Ursula Lizama had

two doubles, touched home plate three times, and had five RBIs in a 3-for-5 batting.

Both teams also had their fair share of errors with MHS committing 10, while SSHS had 16 the entire game.

MHS

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Dela Cruz got the quick two outs when she forced Mendiola to fly out to center fielder Nievalyn Iguel then struck out Nipi

CNMI Under-19 Boys and Girls Teams Carwash Fundraiser





CNMI opens bid in AFC event vs China

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Rockets bounce back to advance to conference finals

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28 TUESDAY, MAY 19, 2015

Saipan Tribune
Sports
SAIPAN TRIBUNE

7 survive Jr. ITF qualifier

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Seven made the grade in the rain-delayed qualifying tournament of the 2015 IT&E Northern Marianas Junior Championships to enter the main draw of the Junior ITF event.

In the boys singles, Hong Kong's Denton Ho, Japan's Yusuke Miyai and Rintaro Oka, and Germany's Marvin Bockers prevailed in yesterday's qualifying games to make it to the main draw, while Chisato Hayakawa, Haruka Hoshino, and Yumi Takemura had the same feat in the girls division.



Ho drew a bye in the first round and defeated the CNMI's Ken Song in the second round, 6-0, 6-0, to advance to the main draw. Song moved a win away from bagging a main draw seat after eliminating fellow Commonwealth player Vincent Tudela, 3-6, 7-6 (1), 10-6, in the upper half bracket pairing.

In other upper half bracket results, Miyai clinched a main draw berth following his victories over the U.S.'s Kyler Jirasook, 6-1, 6-1, and Singapore's Gabriel Chum.

In the bottom half of the draw, Oka swept his two foes to soldier on. He first shut out the CNMI's Steven Goodwin, 6-0, 6-0 before topping Austra-

lia's Brandon Truong, 6, 1, 6-0. Truong won his opening game against the Philippines' Julian Dayrit, 6-4, 6-0.

Bockers duplicated Oka's sweeps as the former eased past the CNMI's Haruya Eda, 6-0, 6-0, before ousting South Korea's Justin Cheung, 6-0, 6-3.

In the girls division, Hayakawa downed fellow Japanese Minori Otsuka, 6-1, 6-4; Hoshino thwarted Rih Yuasa, 6-4, 7-6 (8); and Takemura edged Risako Umekuni, 7-5, 6-1, to join Aki Miyazaki in the main draw. Miyazaki drew a bye in the qualifier, automatically advancing to the main draw.

The girls singles' main draw was released yesterday with Japan's Ayumi Hirata and the Philippines' Maria Dominique Ong getting the Top 2 seeds in the 32-player field. Hirata is scheduled to face the CNMI's Carol Lee today.

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Korea's Justin Cheung returns to Japan's Haruka Aomizu during their game in the qualifying tournament for the 2015 IT&E Northern Marianas Junior Championships yesterday at the American Memorial Park tennis courts.

Leina earns second All-American honors



By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

NCAA Division II historic run for the Colorado State University-Pueblo Lady ThunderWolves after the Women's Golf Coaches Association named her a first team All-American and an All-West Region selection.

This will be Kim's second All-American honor after she made history in 2013 when she was named to the WGCA second-team selection in her freshman year with the Lady ThunderWolves.

See LEINA on Page 26

Leina Kim concludes her junior season with the Colorado State University-Pueblo Lady ThunderWolves with a bunch of awards and honors.

FACEBOOK

MHS keeps 3-peat bid alive



By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER



Jennifer Dela Cruz tossed a two-hitter and Marianas High School kept its three-peat title bid intact with a 26-10 crushing of Saipan Southern High School in the playoffs of the Marianas Interscholastic Sports Organization girls' softball league yesterday at the Miguel "Tan Ge" Basa Pangelinan ballfield.

Dela Cruz pitched in no relief allowing the Lady Manta Rays to three earned runs on two hits—a single to Erin Mendiola and a double to Jauliana Borja in the bottom of the third—with 10 strikeouts and 12 walks.

MHS only needed three outs in the bottom of the sixth to seal the first finals berth. The championship is set at 4pm on Friday, May 22, while the consolation match is on Thursday, May 21.

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